AN AUTHENTIC COPY OF THE CORRESPONDENCE IN INDIA,

BETWEEN THE

COUNTRY POWERS

AND THE HONOURABLE THE

EAST-INDIA COMPANY'S SERVANTS;

CONTAINING,

AMONGST MANY OTHERS,

THE LETTERS OF

GOVERNOR HASTINGS,
J. MACPHERSON, ESQ.
J. STABLES, ESQ.
E. WHELER, ESQ.
SIR JOHN CUMMINGS,
NATH. MIDDLETON, ESQ.
FRANCIS FOWKE, ESQ.
JAMES FRASER, ESQ.
JOHN BRISTOW, ESQ.
DAVID ANDERSON, ESQ.
GENERAL STIBBERT,
COL. MORGAN,
MAJOR PALMER,
MAJOR BROWN,

&c. &c. &c. &c. &c. &c.

IN SIX VOLUMES.

VOL. VI.

LONDON:

PRINTED FOR J. DEBRETT, OPPOSITE BURLINGTON HOUSE, PICCADILLY.

M.DCC.LXXXVII.

Digitized by Google

CONTENTS

TO

VOLUME THE SIXTH.

MEZZUFFER JUNG.

Page

BENGAL Public Consultations, March 22, 1780, —Minutes delivered by the Governor General 1
Remarks of the Governor General on his Treaty concluded with Asoph ul Dowlah, in the year 1781 3
Court's Letter to Bengal, February 14, 1783 . 4
Bengal Secret Consultations, October 6, 1783—Minutes delivered by the Governor General, together with a Letter from Muzzuffer Jung, the Nabob of Ferocabad 5
From Muzzuffer Jung, received February 16, 1783 7
Bengal Secret Consultations, June 28, 1785—Letter from Mr. Willis, and its Enclosures . 9
Letter to the Hon. John Macpherson, Esq. Governor General . . . 10

BULBUDDER SING.

Secret Consultations, March 3, 1783—Letter to Mr. Bristow 16

Mr. Auriol's Agency of Supplies.

Bengal General Consultations, December 14, 1780 —Read a Letter from Mr. Auriol . 18
Bengal General Consultations, September 7, 1781—Letter from the President and Council at Bombay to the Gov. General and Council, April 26, 1781 19
Bengal General Consultations, March 25, 1782—Letter from the Accountant General . 20
Court's Letter to Bengal, July 12, 1782 . 21
Statement enclosed in Letter from Fort St. George to the Governor General and Council, December 21, 1782 22
Bengal General Consultations, April 1, 1783—Letter from the Agent for Supplies . . 25

Page

Letter from John Murray, Esq. Commissary General at Fort William, to the Court of Directors of the East-India Company, February 8, 1784 . 28

Postscript to the above Letter, February 12, 1784 34

Enclosure, N°. 1.—Letter from the Court of Directors to the Governor General and Council, May 17, 1780 35

Enclosure, N°. 3.—Letter from the Commissary General to the Board, January 19, 1783 . 36

Enclosure, N°. 4.—Letter from and to the same, April 22, 1783 . . . 37

Enclosure, N°. 5.—Letter to the Commissary General, January 6, 1784 . . . 38

Enclosure, N°. 6.—Minutes of Council, January 6, 1784 . . . . . *ibid.*

Enclosure, N°. 7.—Letter to the Governor General, September 1, 1783 41

Enclosure, N°. 8.—Present State of the Accounts of the Army on the Bengal Establishment . 43

Enclosure, N°. 9.—Letter to the Governor General, December 9, 1783 45

Enclosure, N°. 10.—Present State of the Accounts of the Army on the Bengal Establishment . 46

Enclosure, N°. 11.—Letter to the Governor General, &c. May 2, 1782 47

Enclosure, N°. 12.—Letter to the Commissary General, December 15, 1783 48

Enclosure, N°. 13.—Letter to the same, November 6, 1780 48

Enclosure, N°. 14.—Letter to the Governor General, &c. December 26, 1783 . . . 49

Enclosure, N°. 15.—Letter to the Commissary General, January 27, 1784 . . . 50

Enclosure, N°. 15.—Report of the Committee of the Court of Directors, December 10, 1772 . 51

Enclosure, N°. 16.—Consultations, October 30, 1773 *ibid.*

Enclosure, N°. 18.—Letter from Mr. Murray, December 5, 1783 53

Enclosure, N°. 19.—G. O. issued by the Commander in Chief, Fort William, Jan. 10, 1784 . *ibid.*

Enclosure, N°. 20.— Letter to the Commissary General in Bengal, January 7, 1784 . 54

Enclosure, N°. 21.—Present State of the Accounts of the Army on the Bengal Establishment . 55

Enclosure, N°. 22.—Letter to the Governor General, &c. June 24, 1783 . . 56

Enclosure, N°. 23.—Letter to the same, October 18, 1783 . . . . . . *ibid.*

Digitized by Google

Letter

CONTENTS.

	Page
Enclosure, N°. 24.—Letter to the same, November 11, 1783	57
Enclosure, N°. 25.—Letter to the Commissary General, March 24, 1783	ibid.
Letter from the Ganges to the Court of Directors, February 21, 1785	59
Various Charges disbursed by the Governor General, from April 13, 1772, to January 1, 1784, for the Service of the Company	62
General Letter to Bengal, March 16, 1784	63
Money privately received	ibid.
Letter from Mr. Hastings to the Governor General and Council of Bengal, dated January 17, 1785, relative to his giving up and cancelling certain Bonds and Notes, previous to his Resignation of the Government of Bengal	68
General Letter from Bengal, January 31, 1785	69
Letter from Mr. Vansittart to the Court of Directors, dated April 13, 1781, respecting the Part he took in Mr. Hastings's resignation	70

Mr. Fraser's Poolbundy Contract.

Bengal Revenue Consultations, February 13, 1778—Addresss and Proposal of Mr. Fraser laid before the Board	72
Estimate of the Advances absolutely necessary to be expended, for putting the Bounds of the Province in a thorough Repair	74
Bengal Revenue Consultations, December 29, 1778—Read the Letter from Mr. Fraser, the Contractor for the Repairs of the Pools in Burdwan	77
Bengal Revenue Consultations, February 16, 1779	80
Narrative of the Proceedings of the Select Committee of Fort St. George, from February 17, to June 22, 1781	82
Letter to Richard Joseph Sulivan, Esq. and Syed Ausum Cawn Behauder Mobauruz Jung, &c.	83
Bengal Secret Consultations, April 2, 1781—Credentials granted to Mr. Sulivan	86
Letter written to the President and Select Committee at Fort St. George	87
Letter from Lord Macartney to the Committee of Secrecy, September 28, 1781	88
Letter from Gen. Sir Eyre Coote to Lord Macartney, with the Answer	92
Letter from the President and Council of Fort St. George to the Governor General and Council, September 8, 1781	93

Fort

Page

Fort St. George Select Consultations, February 12, 1781—Dispatched Letter to Mr. Richard Joseph Sulivan 94
Fort St. George Select Consultations, July 12, 1782—Letter from the President and Select Committee, to the Governor General and Council—Court's Letter to Bengal, February 18, 1783 . 95
Bengal Secret Consultations, March 15, 1783 96
Secret Letter from Bengal, October 20, 1783 97
Letter to the Court of Directors from Mr. Hastings, Fort William, November 28, 1783 . . 98
Copy of Proceedings and Correspondence relative to the Ranah of Gohud, since the year 1781. . 102
Bengal Secret Consultations, December 10, 1781—Treaty concluded on Behalf of the Company, by Colonel Muir, with Madajee Scindia, October 13, 1781 . . . . . *ibid.*
Bengal Secret Consultations, February 18, 1782—Letter from Mr. Anderson, January 29, 1782 *ibid.*
Paper shewn by Mahdajee Sindia to Mr. Anderson, as the original Stipulations drawn out and sent to him by the Ranah of Ghode, with the Alterations and Answers, returned by Sindia, annexed 108
Mr. Anderson's Correspondence with the Governor General 111
Letter from Mr. Anderson to Mr. Hastings, February 4, 1782—Letter from a Mussulman at Ghode to Fussuzzel Hussen Cawn . . *ibid.*
Letters from Mr. Anderson to Mr. Hastings, in 1782 112
Letters from Mr. Anderson to Colonel James Morgan, 1782 121
Letters from the same to Mr. Hastings, in March, 1783 123
Bengal Secret Consultations, April 21, 1783—A Paper delivered by Kessur Sing laid before the Board 125
Bengal Secret Consultations, May 12, 1783—Letter from Mr. Anderson to the Governor General 126
Bengal Secret Consultations, May 29, 1783—Letter from Mr. Anderson to the Governor General *ibid.*
Bengal Secret Consultations, June 16, 1783—Letter from and to the same 127
Bengal Secret Consultations, August 18, 1783—Letter from Mr. Anderson laid before the Board . 128
Bengal Secret Consultations, September 15, 1783—Letter from Mr. Anderson to the Governor General . . . . . *ibid.*

Bengal

Digitized by Google

Page

Bengal Secret Consultations, September 22, 1783 129
Ditto, September 29, 1783—Secret Letter from Bengal, October 20, 1783 130
Letter from the Governor General to Mr. David Anderson, September 24, 1783 . . 131
A newspaper from the Tent of Mahar Raja Scindia, dated the first Ramzam 132
Enclosure in Mr. Anderson's Letter . 133
Bengal Secret Consultations, November 10, 1783—Letter from Mr. Anderson to the Governor General and Council . . . 134
Bengal Secret Consultations, December 16, 1783—Letter from the same to the same . . 135
Secret Letter from Bengal, March 15, 1784 . *ibid.*
Bengal Secret Consultations, March 25, 1784—Letters between the Governor General and Mr. Anderson . . . . . *ibid.*
Bengal Secret Consultations, May 11, 1784 . 140
Secret Letter from Bengal, July 5, 1784 . 141
Copies of all Correspondence relative to the Ranna of Gohud, not included in the Reports of the Committee of Secrecy, or in the Papers presented on the 20th Instant 143
Bengal Secret Consultations, April 27, 1781—Instructions sent to Col. Muir . . *ibid.*
Bengal Secret Consultations, June 14, and July 20, 1784—Letters and Enclosures from Col. Muir 145
Bengal Secret Consultations, Sept. 24, 1781—Letter and Enclosure from Col. Muir . 150
Bengal Secret Consultations, Nov. 12, 1781—Letter from Col. Muir . . . 151
Secret Letter from Bengal, Dec. 29, 1781 . 152
Copy of the several Minutes of the Hon. Charles Stuart, John Macpherson, Esq. and John Stables, Esq. recorded in the Revenue Consultations of Fort William, of May and June, 1785, on the Subject of a Plan, proposed by the Hon. Charles Stuart, for the Collection and Control of the Revenue, . . 153
Bengal Revenue Consultations, May 10, 1785—Minute and Plan for the Management of the Revenue *ibid.*
Notes to Mr. Stuart's Plan for managing the Revenues 164
List of proposed Superintendants . . 166
Bengal Revenue Consultations, May 29, 1785—Minutes and Papers, on the Plan for the Collection of the Revenue, recorded and circulated . . 169
Remarks on the Mode of administering Justice to the Natives in Bengal, and on the Collection of the Revenues 174
Remarks on different Articles . . 179

Digitized by Google

Remark

Page

Remark of the Governor General . . . 187

Abstract Jumma Wassil Bawkey of Bengal and Behar, including the whole of the Land Revenue of the Saubahs from the Bengal and Behar Years 1179-80 to 1190-1, inclusive 188

Particulars of the Charges defrayed in the Revenue Department 189

Account of the Total gross Collections of each Year, from the Year 1179-80, Bengal and Behar Stile, to the Year 1190-1 . . . 190

Bengal Revenue Consultations, July 11, 1785—Minute laid before the Board by Mr. Stuart . 192

BLASTING THE SICS.

Letter from Mr. Hastings to the Governor General, Dec. 4, 1784 . . . 198

Mogul to Mahrattas . . . 203

Libel on the Directors . . . ibid.

MAHRATTA PEACE.

Letter to the Hon. William Hornby, Esq. President, &c. Select Committee at Bombay . . 204

FYZULA KHAN.

Bengal Secret Consultations, June 30, 1783—Read Letters from Mr. Bristow . . . 212

To Major William Palmer, on a Deputation to the Nabob Fyzoola Cawn . . ibid.

Shoka from the Vizier to Fyzoola Cawn, dated 4th of Rubbee ul Awul, 1197, Hegeree . 214

Letter from Mr. Bristow to the Nabob Fyzoola Cawn, dated 5th of Rubbee ul Awul, 1197, Hegeree . . . 215

Vizier's Shoka to Rajah Jaoo Lall, Khoja Am ul Deen, and Mahummed Beg, dated the 27th Rubbee ul Awul, 1197, Hegeree . 216

Translation of a Writing given by Major William Palmer to the Nabob Fyzoola Cawn, Feb. 17, 1783 . . . 216

Letter to Mr. Bristow, Resident at the Vizier's Court . . . 218

Digitized by Google

MUZZUFFER JUNG.

Extract of Bengal Public Consultations, the 22d May, 1780.

THE Governor General delivers in the following minute:

Governor General. — The Nabob Miezufta Jung, of Furruckabad, having preferred frequent complaints to this Government of the hardships and indignities to which he is subjected by the conduct of the Sizawaul stationed in his country for the purpose of receiving the annual tribute which he is bound by treaty to pay to the Soubah of Owde, I am extremely desirous, as well from motives of common justice, as due regard to the rank and situation which that Chief holds among the Princes of Hindostan, that some means may be devised of affording him relief, but without withdrawing that local interference in his affairs, which I understand to be indispensably necessary for the realizing the Vizier's just claims upon him.

The tribute of Furruckabad, from the earliest period of our connection with the present Nabob of Oude, has invariably constituted a part of the funds assigned by his Excellency as a provision for the liquidation of the several public demands of this Government upon him; and in consequence of the powers which the Board deemed it expedient to vest in the Resident at his Court, in the collection of the Company's assignments, a Sizawul has always been stationed with the Nabob to enforce, by every means in his power, the regular payment of the tribute, and to remit the same, as he might receive it, to the Resident at Lucknow; and to enable him to effect this purpose, it hath been found necessary to annex an extensive, and, in some instances, even a controlling authority to the office of Sizawul, the exercise whereof has been, and must ever, in a great measure, be left discretional to the person holding that appointment, he being too far removed from the seat of the Vizier's Government to be subject to any effectual check or control, either from his Excellency or our Resident at his Court.

Under these circumstances, there are but two expedients which seem to suggest themselves for the effectual removal

Digitized by Google
of

of every future cauſe of complaint on this head: one is, the withdrawing the Sizawul altogether, and truſting to the Nabob's own diſcretion for the due performance of his engagements to the Vizier's Government: and the other, that of transferring the office to a perſon more immediately ſubject to the authority of our own Government, whoſe integrity and abilities can be relied on, and whoſe ſituation and circumſtances, in relation to our ſervice, may be a more ſecure pledge to us for a faithful diſcharge of his duty. Were the perſonal character of the preſent Nabob of Furruckabad of a more reſpectable ſtamp, and his general conduct leſs exceptionable, I ſhould readily give my voice for the adoption of the former meaſure; becauſe I ſhould be much better ſatisfied that the tribute could be received without impoſing any reſtraint whatever; but ſuch is notoriouſly the weakneſs, diſſipation, and extravagance of the Nabob, and the knavery and corruption of his ſervants, that to withdraw the check which has been ſet over him would be to relinquiſh the only ſecurity we have for this part of the Vizier's aſſignment to the Company, and in effect to give up every proſpect of realizing it.

I therefore ſubmit to the conſideration of the Board, the expediency of nominating one of our civil ſervants, with the ſame powers as may heretofore have been exerciſed by the native Sizawul, to this truſt; ſubject, however, to the immediate authority of our Reſident at the Court of Oude, from whom he will receive his general inſtructions, and ſuch particular orders and directions as may, from time to time, be found expedient and neceſſary.

Such an appointment, while it would, I would hope, apply a remedy to the evils immediately complained of, would be the means of eſtabliſhing a free communication and intercourſe between the Nabob of Furruckabad and our Reſident at Oude, which would enable the former to addreſs himſelf with more effect to the Vizer, whenever he might find himſelf oppreſſed or aggrieved by the officers and collectors of his Excellency's revenue; an inconvenience he is continually liable to from the local ſituation of his country, and the total want of all order, regularity, or authority in his Government; and to which, among other obvious cauſes, it may, no doubt, be owing, that the country of Furruckabad is become almoſt an entire waſte, without cultivation or inhabitants: that the capital, which, but a very ſhort time ago, was diſtinguiſhed as one of the moſt populous and opulent commercial cities in Hindoſtan, at preſent exhibits nothing but ſcenes of the moſt wretched poverty, deſolation, and miſery; and that the Nabob himſelf, though in the poſſeſſion of a tract of country which, with only common care, is notoriouſly capable of yielding an annual

revenue

revenue of between thirty and forty lacks, with no military establishment to maintain, scarcely commands the means of a bare subsistence. Should my sentiments and wishes on this subject accord with those of the other Members of the Board, I move that one of our civil servants be forthwith appointed collector of the Vizier's assignment to the Company on the Nabob of Furruckabad, with the same allowances, and the same powers, as may have been given to the native Sizawul; and that he be ordered to proceed with all possible expedition to Lucknow, where he will be invested by the Resident with the charge of that office, and receive from him the necessary instructions for his conduct in the discharge of it.

The Board concurring in the expediency of deputing a civil servant to collect the Vizier's assignments to the Company on the Nabob of Furruckabad, for the reasons set forth in the Governor General's minute;

Agreed, That Mr. George Shee be appointed to this office, with the same allowances and powers as were given to the native Sizawul; and that he be ordered to conform to such instructions as he may receive from the Vizier's Court.

Extract of the Treaty concluded by the Governor General with Asoph ul Dowlah, in the Year 1781.

Governor General's Narrative, 1781.

Article 4th. That no English Resident be appointed at Furruckabad, and the present one recalled.

Extract of the Governor General's Remarks on the above Treaty.

Article 4th. That no English Resident be appointed to Furruckabad, and the present one recalled.

I was glad to acquiesce in this article, as it met my own wishes of freeing the Nabob Muzzuffer Jung from that unwarrantable and oppressive restraint which he has so long endured from the usurpations of the Court of Lucknow, and from which he has long and unsuccessfully solicited relief of our Government. It was a subject of difficulty and delicacy for us to interpose in favour of Muzzuffer Jung's rights invaded by the Vizier; but in permitting a Resident at Furruckabad, for the express purpose of receiving the assignments on that country, transferred to us by the Vizier, publicly avowed and gave sanction to all the injustice and injury complained of against the servants of the Nabob, and opened a door for new ones against our own. The removal of Mr. Shee is an example which I

have recommended to the Nabob to imitate, to leave Muzzuffer Jung in the uncontrolled exercise of his authority over the small remains of his country, and, if that little must be still subject to a tribute, that he may collect and pay that tribute himself.

Extract of Court's Letter to Bengal, dated 14th February, 1783.

Par. 28. The fourth article of the treaty is as follows: "That no English Resident be appointed to Furruckabad, "and the present one recalled." In order that we might fully understand this article, we had recourse to your proceedings of the 22d of May, 1780, for the reasons of your first sending a Resident to Furruckabad. We find that Muzzuffer Jung, Nabob of that place, complained of suffering hardships under the person who collected the annual tribute for the Vizier; upon which the Governor General remarked, that he is extremely desirous, as well from motives of common justice, as due regard to the rank and situation which that Chief holds among the powers of Hindostan, that some means may be devised of affording him relief; the Board accordingly, on the same day, appointed a person to reside at his Court, and the motives for such an appointment were highly praiseworthy; we wish the real grounds for revoking the appointment had been equally so; but, on the contrary, we conceive that this removal of our Resident was rather calculated to afford the Vizier an opportunity of exercising his oppression uncontrolled; and the Governor General's observation upon this article of the treaty justifies the opinion; wherein he says, "If the Nabob Muzzuffer Jung must endure oppression, "and I dare not, at this time, propose his total relief, it "concerns the reputation of our Government to remove "our participation in it." But wherein did this political necessity consist? In our opinion, it concerned the reputation of our Government much more to have removed the oppression altogether, than to have sanctified that oppression by an article in a formal treaty. To say that Muzzuffer Jung himself desired the removal of the Resident, as is represented by the Governor General, in the Appendix to his Narrative, can have little weight in the argument, since it was always in your power to have punished any improper conduct in the Resident, or to have nominated, in his room, one on whom you could depend; and when the Nabob expressed such a desire, was he acquainted with the previous determination of the Vizier to heap oppression on him, and that too under the sanction of the British Government?

Extract

Digitized by Google

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, 6th October, 1783.

The Governor General delivers in the following minutes, together with a letter from Muzzuffer Jung, the Nabob of Ferocabad.

I lay before the Board a letter from the Nabob Muzuffer Jung, with a minute written at or about the time of the date which it bears, but withheld, from causes which it is not necessary to mention, from presentation. Causes not dissimilar now dissuade me from executing my original purpose of recommending Major Palmer, my military Secretary, to the appointment proposed in the Minute; and from a sense of submission to the implied orders of the Court of Directors, in their letter of the 14th February, 1783, lately received, added to the conviction which I have long since entertained of the necessity of such an appointment, for the preservation of our national credit, and for the means of rescuing an ancient and respectable family from ruin, I now propose that Mr. Willes, a gentleman unexceptionable, as I believe, to every member of the Board, and of a character eminently qualified for such a charge, be appointed the Resident of this Government at the Court of the Nabob Muzuffer Jung, for the purposes mentioned in the close of his letter, if the consent of the Nabob Vizier can be previously obtained, of which I have no doubt; and that an application be made to him for that purpose, of which Mr. Willes himself may be the bearer.

(Signed) W. HASTINGS.

The undue authority and severities exercised by the Navaub Vizier, or in his name, over the dominions and independent rights of the Navaub Muzzuffer Jung, a Prince of a noble and ancient family, and whose ancestors fill a respected station in the annals of Hindostan, have been for a long period the subjects of repeated complaints and applications from him to me for redress and support. Deeming it incompatible with the dignity and honour of this Government, to appear to countenance the exercise of an authority altogether unsupported by equity and justice, and much more to share in the odium of a severe and oppressive exercise of such an authority, it was on a former occasion, at my instance, determined by the Board to admit of the appointment of a servant of this Government; but on the part of the Navaub Vizier, to receive the tribute payable to him by Muzuffer Jung, who by filling that appointment to the exclusion of a native Suzzawal, and residing at Furruckabad, would, it was expected, remove many of the grievances under which that Prince was said to labour.

 The

Digitized by Google

The appointment was made; but a short period produced complaints against the gentleman who held it, whether well or ill founded I have never had opportunity to ascertain, both on the part of the Navaub Muzzuffer Jung, and the Navaub Vizier; in consequence of which I was induced, when at Benares, to recall that Gentleman, and to acquiesce in the abolition of the appointment.

He was succeeded by Almass Ali Khan, as Suzzanwall on the part of the Vizier; and from the fresh complaints and earnest entreaties of Muzuffer Jung, to interpose in his behalf, it appears that he has not reaped any sort of benefit from the change. By the importunity of his solicitations, and the most positive assurances of punctual payment, to the Nabob Vizier, both of the annual tribute and the arrears then due, if allowed the uncontrolled exercise of his proper authority, I was again induced to interfere in his behalf; and in consequence thereof the Suzzauwal was withdrawn by the Vizier, and Muzzuffer Jung was suffered to manage the small portion of territory still unalienated, on the terms proposed by himself. The event did not answer either his expectations or mine: that Prince, a weak and unexperienced young man, abandoned himself entirely to the discretion of his servants; and the restoration of his independence was followed by a total breach of the engagements which he had promised to fulfil, attended by pointed instances of contumacy and disrespect; not a single payment, either on account of the arrears, or tribute for the current year, was made to the Nabob Vizier; and the man who had been Muzzuffer Jung's Vakeel at the Presidency, and who, on his dismission, and return from Benares to Furruckabad, was appointed manager of his affairs, had the insolence to propagate a report, that the interference to which his master owed the power he then enjoyed, was purchased through him.

This behaviour determined me to withdraw my protection and interference altogether; and in August last I communicated my resolution on the subject, through Mr. Middleton, to the Nabob Vizier. The consequences have been, an aggravated renewal of the severities formerly exercised against that Government, and the re-appointment of a Suzzauwal, with powers, either delegated or assumed, to the utter extinction of the rights of the Nabob Muzuffer Jung, and actually depriving him of the means of subsistence; to which, in direct opposition to the known sentiments and opinions which originally induced me to interpose the influence of this Government in his favour, the services of English troops have been added, to enforce the authority of the Suzzauwal. An application was some time since made to me, for the renewal of our interference

Digitized by Google

in the affairs of Furruckabad; but an unwillingness to increase the number of distant objects, determined me at that juncture to disregard them, which already occupy the attention and employ all the powers of the Government. Proposals, contained in a letter received a few days ago from Muzzuffer Jung, of which the accompanying is a translation, as they are particular and explicit, have determined me to lay them before the Board.

From Muzzuffer Jung, Nabob of Furruckabad. Received February 16th, 1783.

Usual introduction.

The ruined state of the territories, and the distressed condition of the family, of the late Nabobs Mahummud Cawn and Ahmua Khan, and all the misfortunes and miseries which I have experienced for some years past, are fully and minutely known to you. Last year, when in the excess of your favour and parental benevolence you were pleased to turn your attention towards the improvement of my affairs, the Suzzauwal, through your kindness and assistance, was withdrawn; and I hoped to experience, during that short interval, the difference between that and former periods. The days and nights of that interval were employed in repaying your goodness with unremitting prayers and acknowledgements; and the fame of your friendship, benevolence, and protecting power, resounded from every quarter of the empire. This year, owing to my evil fortune, and the ill conduct of my servants, who neither regarded nor felt the favours which you had conferred upon us, the displeasure of the English Government has fallen upon me; its protection has been withdrawn, and a Suzzauwal has again been placed over this country by the Vizier of the empire. The miseries which have fallen upon my country, and the poverty and distress which have been heaped upon me, by the re-appointment of the Sizzauwal, are such, that a relation of them would, I am convinced, excite the strongest feelings of compassion in your breast. But it is impossible to relate them. On one side, my country ruined and uncultivated, to a degree of desolation which exceeds all description; on the other, my domestic concerns and connections involved in such a state of distress and horror that even the relations, the children, and the wives of my father are starving in want of daily bread, and are on the point of flying, voluntary exiles, from their country and from each other. The narrative of my former and present situation is as follows:—At the time of my junction with the late Vizier Shujah ul Dowlah, I solicited the restoration of certain Mahalauts, which formed a part

Digitized by Google

a part of my hereditary dominions, but had fallen into his possession after the death of the late Nabob Ahmud Khaun; and as the late Vizier was favourably inclined towards me, he passed his word to restore them on the defeat and expulsion of the enemy. When, at the successful conclusion of the war, I repeated my request, he was pleased to say, that his military expences had been exceedingly heavy, and therefore desired that the Mahlauts in question should continue with him for another year, at the end of which period he engaged to deliver them up; but, unfortunately, in the interval he sickened and died, and the obtainment of that object, which from the first depended on your favour and kindness, remained uneffectual. I had on my part reason to hope, from his known goodness and benevolence, that the present Vizier would, when filling that station, readily fulfil the promise made by his father, and honour me with his favour and brotherly support; but it has so turned out, that he has not been pleased hitherto to direct his attention towards the object; on the contrary, an extent of territory, amounting to fifteen or sixteen Mahauls, which remained in my possession during the Government of the late Vizier, have been seized upon various pretences, and are no longer under my authority, and by the oppressive appointment of a Suzzauwul, an accumulation of new miseries and distresses have been daily added to those by which my country, my people, and myself were already overwhelmed. As I am hopeless of compassion or favour from any one but you, it has appeared a duty incumbent on me to make to you this representation of my own situation, and the distresses of the long train of relations and dependants, whose fate hangs upon mine. The chosen of the Almighty do never turn aside the eye of pity and kindness from the misfortunes of their dependants, and I rely confidently on that unequalled benevolence which at all times disposes you to regard and support the dignity of ancient families, and to shew favour and kindness in behalf of the unfortunate, that you do and will consider the restoration of my affairs as an object meriting your attention, especially as my conduct has ever been directed by submission, obedience, and a constant desire to fulfil your pleasure. The whole object of my present solicitations is as follows: That my ancient and hereditary territories, which the late Vizier, during his life, engaged repeatedly to deliver up, may now be separated from the dominions of the present Vizier of the empire, and being incorporated with those at present in my possession, that the whole may be left at my disposal; and that giving me and my country a place in your protection and patronage, you will be pleased to consider me as a dependant on your favour. Whatever

sum

Digitized by Google

sum your justice and equity shall determine and resolve to be paid into the surcor of the Nabob Vizier, your pleasure shall be minutely and punctually obeyed; and whatever you may deem sufficient for the expences and support of myself, and the children and families of the late Nabobs Mahmud Khaun and Ahmud Khaun, with that I will remain satisfied and content, and daily offer up my prayers and thanks in return for your bounty and goodness.

In this case also, from amongst the Afghauns of my own tribe, whose reputation for valour and fidelity has continued unimpaired, and whose actions have been made known to you by the annals of former times; from amongst them, who for want of employment and from extreme poverty are now on the point of deserting this distressed country, I shall be enabled to entertain, for the use and service of the Company, a body of fifteen hundred horse, and a thousand sepoy infantry, who will at all times, on receipt of your orders, be ready and prepared to execute such services as you shall direct them to perform. If from an attention to my future prosperity you are pleased to approve of and comply with this proposal, and will appoint some gentleman of integrity and conciliating manners to this country, to reside with and assist me on the spot, your protection will be effectual, my affairs may again be restored to order, and other important objects may hereafter be effected thereby; and moreover the sum, which you shall determine and fix to be paid to the Nabob Vizier, may be regularly transmitted, through the Gentleman who shall be Resident here, to the Presence. If there should be any delay in your acceptance of this proposal, my existence and the existence of my family will become difficult and doubtful. Considering you as my only friend and protector, I have been impelled thus to lay my situation and wishes before you; there is no one else from whom I can hope for support and assistance.—Concludes as usual.

Read the 29th and 30th paragraphs of the general letter from the honourable the Court of Directors, dated 14th February, 1783.

Ordered, That this subject lie for consideration.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, 28th June, 1785.

The Governor General lays before the Board the following letter and its enclosures, which he has received from Mr. Willis.

Para. 6th. "You must inquire into the actual state of "the country belonging to Muzuffer Jung, its re- "sources, and the revenue obtainable from it without "distress

" distress to the inhabitants, and into the means
" which the Nabob possesses of entertaining, for the
" use of the Company or the Vizier (for their inte-
" rests are united in every question that relates to
" Furruckabad) any and what body of troops, par-
" ticularly cavalry. Muzuffer Jung, in his letter to
" the Governor General, supposes himself capable of
" entertaining 1,500 cavalry and 1,000 sepoys.

7th. " The result of the inquiries must be transmitted
" to us, with the opinion of the best means that can
" be taken, with the greatest probability of success,
" to restore the affairs and country of Furruckabad,
" to advance the prosperity of the Nabob and its in-
" habitants, and to promote the credit of the English
" name, and the reputation of the Vizier.

8th. " With these authorities before us, we shall be
" enabled to judge whether the sum payable for the
" Nabob of Furruckabad ought to be increased or di-
" minished, and to offer advice to his Excellency the
" Vizier upon this, and such other matters as we may
" deem for the respective good of his Excellency and
" the Nabob's affairs."

The Honourable John Macpherson, Esquire, Governor General,

Honourable Sir,

In obedience to the honourable Board's instructions delivered to me on my appointment to Furruckabad, Par. 6. 7, and 8th, I do myself the honour of addressing you. Whilst the late Governor General was without the provinces, I fully explained the situation of the country dependant on the Nabob Muzuffer Jung, but as no regulations were formed in consequence, I suppose more important avocations occupied his time.

In the letter of the Nabob Muzuffer Jung, dated February, 1783, to which my instructions * advert, a restoration of the country detached from his authority by the late Vizier is demanded, and in case it should be restored, a promise is made of maintaining, for the use of the Company, a body of 1,500 cavalry and 1,000 infantry, to be selected from the Affghans of his tribe.

Should you, honourable Sir, from a conviction of the justice of the claim (for your information I herewith give translate N° 1. of the treaties which define the rights of the Vizier and Nabob) or from a desire of attaching to the interests of the honourable Company a race famed for their valour and intrepidity, approve of restoring the

* Entered in Consultations, St. Dt. 6th October.

alienated

alienated Purgunnahs to the Nabob Muzuffer Jung, there can be no doubt of the country being equal to the maintenance of the stipulated number of cavalry and infantry; of this you will be convinced by the perusal of the accompanying Statement (N° 2) which, though not positively accurate, is sufficiently so for the purpose for which it is produced; with this statement, permit me to lay before you a plan (N° 3.) for the regulations of the affairs of Furruckabad, which I believe to have been in contemplation at the time Mr. Hastings intended recommending Major Palmer*, his military Secretary, to be Resident at Furruckabad.

I will now, honourable Sir, acquaint you with the state of the districts still dependant on the Nabob Muzuffer Jung; a knowledge of which will clearly evince, that without a restoration of the whole or a part of the country claimed by the Nabob, or without there be a remission of the tribute to the Vizier, neither cavalry nor infantry can be maintained. The situation of the Nabob and his country is more distressful than when he addressed himself for relief in 1783; and I am sorry to say, that my appointment to Furruckabad has been of no advantage. In justification of myself, I think it necessary to acquaint you, that by a letter (N° 4.) from the Governor General, when at Lucknow, I was prohibited from interfering in the executive management, and by a subsequent order, I was made liable to dismission by his Excellency the Vizier: this at once precluded the possibility of my appointment being beneficial to the country.

By the last treaty, which the Vizier compelled the Nabob to ratify, during his minority, the sum of four lacks and a half is fixed as tribute or subsidy, and this to be paid from the unsequestered Purgunnahs. These originally † yielded about 12 lacks of revenue, but have since yearly been less and less productive: in the present year, it is not probable there will be above 5 lacks, from which is to be deducted the expence of collecting. The tribute therefore cannot be fully paid, nor will there be any thing for the subsistence of the Nabob and family. Since my residence at Furruckabad the tribute has been increased to five lacks (though from the calamity of the famine, and other causes, the country was not equal to the defraying the previously fixed demands). Almass Ally has taken the Purgunnah of Marara at a very inadequate rent, and his aumils have seized many adjacent villages: the Purgunnahs of Cocut-

* Vide Mr. Hastings's Minute, 6th October, 1783.

† Ahmed Khan was in possession of about 41 Purgunnahs, the Nabob Muzuffer Jung has only 15 and ½.

Digitized by Google

mow

mow and Souje are constantly plundered by his people; the collection of the Gauts near Futty Ghur have been seized by the Vizier's Cutwal, and the Zemindars in 4 Purgunnahs are so refractory as to have fortified themselves in their gurries*, and to refuse all payments of revenue: this is the state of the purgunnahs. And Furruckabad, which was once the seat of great opulence and trade, is now daily deserted by its inhabitants, its walls mouldering away, without police, without protection; exposed to the depredations of a banditti of 2 or 300† robbers, who night after night enter it for plunder, murdering all who oppose them. The ruin that has overtaken this country is not to be wondered at, when it be considered that there has been no state, no stable government for many years. There has been the Nabob Vizier's authority, his Minister's, the Resident's at Lucknow, the Sezawall's, the Camp authority, the Nabob Muzuffer Jung's, and that of 20 Dewans‡ or advisers: no authority sufficiently predominant to establish any regulations for the benefit of the country, whilst each authority has been exerted, as opportunity offered, for temporary purposes.

Such being the present deplorable state of Furruckabad and its districts, in the ensuing year it will be in vain to look for revenue, if some regulations equal to the exigency be not adopted. The whole country will be divided between the neighbouring powerful aumils, the refractory zemindars, and banditti of robbers; and the Patans, who might be made useful subjects, will fly from the scene of anarchy. The crisis appears now come, that either some plan of government should be resolved on, so as to form faithful subjects on the frontier, or the country be given up to its fate; and if it be abandoned, there can be little doubt but that the Mahrattas will gladly seize on a station so favourable to incursions into the Vizier's dominions, will attach to their interests the Hindoo zemindars, and possess themselves of forts which, with little expence, being made formidable, would give employment perhaps to the whole of our force, should it be ever necessary to recover them.

In the plan, (N° 3) formed on the supposition of the sequestered purgunnahs being restored, the evils arising from

* Mud forts, some with ditches; one very strong, in the purgunnah of Caronlee, ought to be immediately reduced.

† Neither natives or Europeans venture to quit their houses after sunset.

‡ The Nabob's dissipation and incapacity are well known. Vide Mr. Hastings's minute on Mr. Shee's appointment, and also minute entered in Consultation 6th October, 1783.

Digitized by Google

a divided authority are obviated; yet, as it is of so extensive a nature, and as it so totally militates with the interests and inclinations of the Vizier, it may not perhaps at present be expedient to carry it into execution; I therefore beg leave to offer to your option another plan, formed on a more moderate scale, and which I should hope would prove efficacious.

PLAN.

1st. That the Company to consider the Nabob Muzuffer Jung's country as under their immediate protection, continuing as *Resident at the Nabob's Court a civil servant with superintending powers, and who is to be considered as solely amenable to the honourable Board.

2ndly. That in order to attach the Partans, and to shew how well inclined the Company are to alleviate, as much as possible, the distresses of the Nabob and family, that the † purgunnahs of Marara, Sukeet, Soocuch, and Saheelpirir, be restored to the Nabob Muzuffer Jung.

3rdly. That the six ghauts near Futty Ghur, which are detained by the Vizier's Cutwal, in opposition to the Vizier's order, be restored.

4thly. That the Resident be allowed to require from the officer commanding at Futty Ghur, troops (so far as a regiment) in case of necessity.

These benefits granted, the revenue as under computed:

The 15 and ½ purgunnahs, included the ghauts - - -		‡ 7,00,000 — —
The purgunnah Sukeet, which includes Etah	1,50,000 — —	
Soruch and Sukutpore	60,000 — —	
§ The remaining ½ Marara - - -	65,000 — —	
		2,75,000 — —
Total		9,75,000 — —

* In the Nabob's letter of February, 1783, he complains of the conduct of his servants, and requests to have a Resident stationed at Furruckabad.

† These purgunnahs are at present rented by Almas Alli, and are so intermixed with those still remaining under the Nabob Muzuffer Jung, as to injure the collections of both. When the Governor General was at Lucknow, the Nabob petitioned for the restoration of these purgunnahs, and had they been restored, would have been satisfied.

‡ The Jummabundy has been frequently more; but this sum has not been collected for these many years.

§ The other ½ is included in the 15 and ½ purgunnahs, estimated at seven lacks.

Digitized by Google

To

To be appropriated as follows:

1st. *4,50,000 to be paid to the Company, (who are to give credit to the Vizier to this amount) the Nabob Muzuffer Jung deducting the same sum as heretofore allowed by the Vizier for Nujubs, &c.

2ndly. 1,50,000 for the maintenance of a body of 500 Patan cavalry; their pay 30 rupees per man and horse for ten months, the usual mode of enlisting in Hindostan; the amount to be defrayed by jagheers in cash, (as thought adviseable); the cavalry to be employed for the protection of the country, but ready to be detached for the service of the Company whenever required.

3dly. 30,000 for the expences of repairing the walls and the gates of Furruckabad, so as to protect the city, and also for the establishment of a police.

4thly. † 1,00,000 stated as expence of collections and loss by aumils, and there will remain,

5thly, 2,45,000 for the subsistence of the Nabob and a very large family, some of whom are nearly starving, as you will see by translate petition, (N° 5) addressed to the late Governor General.

Total 9,75,000.

The sum allotted for the Nabob is more than he at present possesses, yet surely not too much, when it be considered that his father (Ahmed Khan) was the friend of the Company in their contests with the late Vizier Sujah Dowlah; that his ancestors have been highly respected throughout Hindostan; and that the treaty which deprived him of half the Duab was forced upon him during his minority, and was in direct opposition to every former treaty. It were to be wished, that until the country may recover, that some part of it, if not the whole of the tribute, could be given up.

The benefits which I think may be expected for the foregoing plan are,

To the Company.

Forming a friendly frontier, attaching to their interests a brave people, and having a body of ‡ 500 cavalry ready to be detached on emergency for their service, or for that of the Vizier.

* Either to be paid to the troops at Futty Ghur, or sent down to Calcutta.

† It may be less; but last year there was a balance uncollected of 2 lacks and ½.

‡ Such a body being once formed, will certainly facilitate the procurement of a larger, if required.

Digitized by Google

To

To the Nabob Muzuffer Jung.

An increase of income in the first year, which will be more considerable in the next, when the refractory zemindars are brought under subjection.

To the Inhabitants.

Stability of government, protection from robbers and plunderers, a police, and a certainty of redress, by complaint to the English Government, in case they are oppressed or aggrieved.

To be opposed to the benefits, the objections are few, and those not founded on justice.

The Vizier's and his Minister's reluctance, 1st, To the restoration of any part of the country wrested from the Nabob Muzuffer Jung; 2dly, To the interference of the Company in the affairs of Furruckabad, though their own Government has been so oppressive and so ruinous to the country, whilst the advantages they have obtained from it have been very *trivial; the reluctance also of Almas Allie, as Marara, &c. must be taken from his management.

In the foregoing plan I have not defined the powers which are to be entrusted with the Resident, or what are to be his allowances; that, honourable Sir, must rest with you; however, you must be sensible, from the knowledge of the character of the present Nabob and his servants, that much of the efficacy of this or any other plan, for the restoration of the country, and the protection of the inhabitants, will depend upon the exertion of the person appointed, on the part of the Company, to superintend the execution of it.

I am, Honourable Sir,
Your most obedient,
Calcutta, Humble servant,
24th April, 1785. (Signed) J. WILLES.

* The Sizanwal, to whom I succeeded, remitted, in six months of the last year, 1 lack of rupees; in the preceding year, 3 lacks; indeed I believe the tribute has in no one year been remitted in full; as a proof that it has not, a balance of 9 lacks was claimed by the Vizier from the Nabob, during the time Mr. Hastings was at Lucknow. The sum was then said to be excused; however, the account was fictitious; the Vizier's Sezauwal had the whole country assigned over to his management; what could he have more?

To obtain a more perfect knowledge of the late Vizier's first connection with the Nabobs of Furruckabad, see the Papers respecting the Robilla War, in the Appendix to the Sixth Report of the Secret Committee; see also the Oude Papers throughout for the history of that connection under the present Vizier.

Digitized by Google

BUL-

BULBUDDER SING.

Bengal Secret Consultations, 3d March, 1783, Folio 339.

To John Bristow, Esquire, Resident at the Vizier's Court.*

SIR,

From your having requested me in your letters to use my utmost endeavours to restore peace to this distracted country, I take the liberty of laying before you my sentiments of the mode I judge most effectual to attain the end you seem so much to desire.

To establish peace and quiet in this country two ways can only be adopted, either quelling the disturbances by force, or by giving the Rajah Bulbudder such allowances as may be thought adequate to his rank and influence in the country. As an officer at the head of a detachment employed to crush the rebellion, the decisive exertions of a military force first naturally present themselves; and there can be little doubt entertained but that a detachment of artillery, a regiment of sepoys, and 500 of his Excellency the Vizier's horse, is a sufficient force to compel the rebel to relinquish this country, or even to expel him the Vizier's dominions: were the different Fouzedars, under the severest penalties, obliged to attack him and his adherents, wherever they should take refuge, in their particular districts, and to punish in a most exemplary manner such of the zemindars in their Governments who should conceal, protect, or assist the rebel, such a plan, vigorously exerted, would, no doubt, force the rebel to quit the Vizier's dominions. The difficulty of apprehending him is so great, that it can scarcely be hoped for. It is probable that when he found himself attacked on all sides, he would retire across the Jumna to Chitterpore, the place of his residence in the time of the late Vizier, and that immediately on the recal of the detachment from this country he would again return, and re-commence his destructive depredations; nor would it be necessary for him to bring a force with him; no part of the world abounds so much with soldiers of fortune as Hindostan, who in crowds enlist under any stan-

* This letter was not printed separate for the House of Commons; but as it appears to be the principal document in support of the charge, it is here detached from the great mass of the Oude papers. Mr. Bristow's letter, enclosing this of Major Lumsdaine's to the Council, is to be found above, page 241, Vol. III. of this edition.

dard,

Digitized by Google

dard, encouraged by the hopes of plunder or of pay. The zemindars are much attached to the Rajah, whom they consider as their hereditary Prince, and never fail to assist him; they also find their advantage in fomenting the disturbances, as they withhold their rents from Government under various pretences, and give but a trifling consideration to the rebel.

From the above reasons I am clearly of opinion, that the allowing the Rajah a pension, suitable to his rank and influence in the country, is the most certain mode of attaining a permanent peace, and it is, considered in an œconomical view; the advantages to the Vizier (indeed I may say to the Company, their affairs being so connected) are so obvious, that it is unnecessary to remark them. The Vizier will get rid of the expence of the detachment, and the Company will have a force which may be employed elsewhere. The great difficulty which the officers of Government at present meet with, in realizing the revenues of the country, will be removed, as the inhabitants, on the disturbances being quieted, would bring back to their villages their families, cattle, and effects, of course Government would have some security for the revenue, whereas at present they have none.

When I consider the matter farther in a political view, I see also strong reasons for coming to an accommodation. The Rajah Bulbudder is the lineal descendant of the most powerful Hindoo family in this part of Hindostan. Connections with him are eagerly sought after, as they are thought to confer honour; he is much respected himself, nor is his rebellion against Government looked on as a crime; on the contrary, all the zemindars in the contiguous districts are inclined to assist him, and some are even induced to follow his example.

I have given you my opinions with candour, and to the best of my judgement; in delivering them I have been guided solely by a desire to promote, to the utmost of my power, the public good. They must appear to you disinterested; for if the plan I submit to you is followed, the occasion for my services in this part of the Vizier's dominions will, I hope, soon cease.

I have the honour to be,
With respect, &c.

Camp, near Dookah, the 16th Nov. 1782. (Signed) J. LUMSDAINE, Major commanding at Sahlone.

A true copy.
(Signed) Wm. Swainston,
Assistant to the Resident.

Digitized by Google

Mr. AURIOL's AGENCY of SUPPLIES.

Extract of Bengal General Consultations, the 14th December, 1780.

Read the following letter from Mr. Auriol:

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

The intelligence received from Fort Saint George of a present scarcity of all kinds of grain at that place, and the distress which General Sir Eyre Coote apprehends so numerous a garrison may suffer, if not relieved by timely supplies from hence, induce me to offer the following proposals for providing them, as I have an opportunity at present of securing a quantity of tonnage, which may soon be otherwise engaged; and it will afterwards be difficult, if not impossible, to afford ample relief to that garrison, on account of the reduced state of the shipping of this port.

I will engage to deliver at Fort Saint George, in the course of the present fair season, excepting only against the capture of enemies, and the dangers of the seas, the following articles, viz.

50,000 bags of good cargo rice, at Sa Rs -	6	8	per bag of 2 Br. Mds.
15,000 maunds of wheat -	7	12	do. of do.
10,000 do. pease -	7	8	do.
12,000 do. best grain of different kinds -	7	8	do.
10,000 do. middling do. -	7	—	do.
1,000 do. tobacco -	10	—	per do.
500 do. beetel -	11	8	
1,000 do. ghee -	20	—	
1,000 oil -	14	4	
2,000 sugar -	18	8	per do.

The payment to be made one third in advance, one third on approbation of the musters, and the remainder on proof of delivering the several articles at Madras, or their actual loss by either of the dangers excepted against.

The prices of ghee and sugar appear rather high; but they are not objects of advantage when the wastage is considered; and I have only inserted a small quantity of each, because they are not articles of necessary consumption.

If my proposals should be approved, I request that the honourable Board will be pleased to direct their Attorney to make out the engagements as soon as possible, that I may lose no time in securing the tonnage that will be required.

Digitized by Google

I beg leave to add, that if the honourable Board ſhould prefer ſupplying the wants of the Preſidency of Fort Saint George by agency, I will uſe my utmoſt endeavours to effect it to their ſatisfaction; that I will deliver my accounts upon honour, and expect only the uſual commiſſion for my trouble.

I am, with the greateſt reſpect,

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

Fort William, Your moſt obedient ſervant,

7th Dec. 1780. (Signed) J. P. AURIOL.

Agreed, That Mr. James Peter Auriol be permitted to provide by agency the articles mentioned in his propoſals, deliverable as ſoon as poſſible in any quantities of each that he may be able to procure, excepting the articles of tobacco, ghee, beetle, ſugar, and oil, theſe being neither ſo neceſſarily wanted as grain, nor ſo eaſy or convenient of tranſportation; and that he be allowed a commiſſion of 15 per cent.

Agreed alſo, That Mr. Auriol be appointed Agent of Supplies to the other Preſidencies, and to the iſland of St. Helena, with the ſame commiſſion.

Ordered, That notice of this appointment be ſent to the Buxey, that he may not in future provide ſtores as uſual for the iſland of St. Helena.

Extract of Bengal General Conſultations, the 7th September, 1781.

Extract of a Letter from the Preſident and Council at Bombay, to the Governor General and Council, dated the 26th April, 1781.

We have received your conſignment of rice by the Devonſhire grab.

The charges upon this rice are ſo exceſſively high and unuſual to us, particularly the articles of freight and commiſſion, that they could not but attract our obſervation; and they engaged our attention the more ſtrongly, as we underſtand a large quantity is provided for this Preſidency upon the ſame terms. The rice, with the addition of the charges, ſtands the Company in upwards of 9 rupees a bag at Calcutta; and we have judged it incumbent on us to take notice ſo far of this expenſive ſupply, as this Preſidency will of courſe ſtand charged with a heavy debt on that account; and our wants were not ſo preſſing as to require ſo expenſive a relief.

Digitized by Google

Extract of Bengal General Consultations, 25th March, 1782,

Read the following letter from the Accountant General:

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

In obedience to your orders of the 12th November, 1781, I have now the honour to report to you, that, on an examination of the accounts of the Agent for the supplies to the other Presidencies, I find them to be correct in their additions and calculations; that they correspond with those of the Treasury in the sums charged in the latter as advanced to him; that the sums charged in his accounts correspond with the invoices of supplies sent to the other Presidencies; that the commission, charged at 15 per cent. upon the provisions supplied, upon the charges of shipping them, and upon the freight, is accurately computed.

The Agent being upon honour with respect to the sums charged in his accounts for the cost of the articles supplied, I did not think myself authorised to require any voucher of the sums charged for the demurrage of sloops, either as to the time of detention, or the rate of the charge, or of those for the articles lost in going down the river; and on that ground I thought myself equally bound to admit the sums acknowledged as received for the sales of goods returned, without requiring vouchers of the rates at which they were sold.

List of Accounts examined, and herewith submitted to the Honourable Board.

Abstract account of the receipts and disbursements of the Agent, for supplies to the other Presidencies, from the 18th December, 1780, to the 31st January, 1781.

Do. do. do. from the 1st February to the 28th February, 1781.

Do. do. do. from the 1st March to the 30th April, 1781.

Do. do. do. from the 1st May to the 30th September, 1781.

Do. do. do. from the 1st October to the 31st December, 1781.

Account sales of rice, tamarind, and one cask of salt.

Provisions returned from the ship Free Mason.

Account sales of oil and ghee, returned damaged from the ship Crespigney.

Account current of rice, and sundry stores lost in the snow George, belonging to Mr. Pugh, which broke from her anchors off the Old Fort, and was overset by a north-wester on the 27th March.

Account

Digitized by Google

Account of rice and doll, loſt in going down to be laden on the Creſpigny.

Account of ſloops' demurrage going down to be laden on ſeveral ſhips.

Account of ſundry petty charges for St. Helena ſtores, and ſloops' demurrage.

Account of 200 bags of rice loſt in a bhur going down to be laden on the ſhip Royal Charlotte.

Account of ſloops' demurrage going down to be laden on ſeveral veſſels.

have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) WM LARKINS,
Accountant General.

Fort William,
Accountant-General's Office,
28th Jan. 1782.

Ordered, That the accounts encloſed in the above letter be returned to the Accountant General.

The Board obſerve, that the rates of the purchaſes made by the Agent being in general low, and his charges reaſonable, excepting freight, which has been raiſed by the exceſſive demand for grain at Madras, and commiſſion upon the ſame, which has conſequently been enhanced in proportion;

Agreed, That his accounts be paſſed up to the 31ſt December, 1781, in their preſent form; but from that period that he draw no more commiſſion on the freight, charges of ſhipping, or any other charges, than the rate of 5 per cent., being the cuſtomary amount drawn by merchants.

And as an equivalent for any advances of money, which it may be neceſſary for the Agent to make, for carrying on the ſervice, if there ſhould not be aſſets in the Treaſury to anſwer the drafts made upon it in his favour,

Reſolved, That he be allowed the current intereſt of Calcutta upon all ſuch drafts, from the day of their dates until they ſhall be completely liquidated.

Ordered, That notice thereof be ſent to the Accountant General, and to the Sub-Treaſurer.

Extract of Court's Letter to Bengal, dated 12th July, 1782.

Par. 41. Having taken into our conſideration the appointment of Mr. Auriol to be Agent for ſupplying the other Preſidencies, and our iſland of St. Helena, with grain, with a commiſſion of 15 per cent. on his diſburſements, and having examined all your proceedings thereon, we cannot but expreſs our diſpleaſure at ſuch an unneceſſary expenditure of the Company's money.

42. Our Preſidency of Bombay have informed us, that they received a conſignment from Bengal of 3,040 bags of rice,

rice, and that they could not but be ſtruck with the enormous amount of the charges, which were ſaid to be near rupees, 7 per bag. The freight alone was charged at 5 rupees per bag, when they could have contracted for it at Bombay, free of all riſque and charges, at rupees, 5. 3 per bag; but what appeared inexplicable to them, was the commiſſion of 15 per cent. to the agent, which commiſſion was not only charged on the prime coſt of the rice, but alſo on the freight, and all other charges. It likewiſe appears from the eſtimate which you have tranſmitted to us, of the probable reſources and diſburſements of your Government, within the 30th of April 1781, and the 1ſt of May 1782, that the amount which it is expected the Agent will require from your treaſury in 1781-2, will be current rupees 15,92,500; at 15 per cent. on this ſum, the commiſſion will amount to current rupees 238,875, or (taking the rupee at 2s. 3d.) 26,873l.

43. This profuſion of expence is at all times wholly unjuſtifiable. But that you ſhould have adopted it when the Company were in the utmoſt diſtreſs for money, and almoſt every department in arrear, ſhews how little attention has been given to our real intereſts.

44. In thus diſapproving a meaſure ſo wholly unjuſtifiable we mean not to convey cenſure on Mr. Auriol, or on any other perſons who may have been appointed to ſimilar agencies. But all ſuch appointments are to be forthwith annulled; adhering to, and repeating our former orders, that ſuch parts of the Company's buſineſs as can be done by contract, be ſo executed; and in concluding ſuch contracts, you are to take the inſtructions already before you for your guidance.

Statement encloſed in Letter from Fort St. George to the Governor General and Council; dated 21ſt December, 1782.

Captain Mercer has delivered at Madras, on a contract with the honourable Company, 450 garce, or 25,091 bags neat weight, of two Engliſh Maunds each, free from inſurance, waſtage, boat hire, or any other charge to the honourable company whatever; for which he has received, by bills on the Governor General and Council at thirty days ſight, current pagodas 58,500, or current rupees, at 370 Arcots per ⁰⁄₀ pagodas	2,36,925 — —
Captain Mercer, agreeable to an article in his contract, has brought from Bengal,	

and

Digitized by Google

and landed safely here, treasure to the amount of pagodas 370,370, which, at 3 per cent. freight, is pagodas 11,111. 4. 16, or current rupees, at 375 Arcots per 100 pagodas — —	45,000 — —
Current rupees	1,91,925 — —

By this statement, which is a just one, Captain Mercer has imported 450 garce of rice, or 25,091 bags of 166 lb. each, which have cost the Company pagodas 47,388. 37. 64, or current rupees 191,925; at which rate one bag of rice will cost the Company current rupees 7. 10. 4; and on a calculation made without making any allowance to Captain Mercer's contract for freight of the 370,370 pagodas, his rice when delivered into the Company's store, stood the Company only current rupees 9. 7. 1: an equal quantity, as sent on the Company's account from Bengal on ship tonnage, will cost the Company current rupees 9. 13. 6 per bag; by Mr. Auriol's calculation, before it leaves the river, and stands them current rupees 10. 8. 6, when received at Madras into the Company's store, after allowing wastage and charges of landing 450 garce or 25,091 bags of rice laden at Calcutta, will, after deducting 5 per cent. stated allowance for wastage, produced at Madras 23,836. ½ bags, and cost the Company at Calcutta, on a medium of ship and doney tonnage, current rupees 8. 15. 6

per bag, or current rupees —	2,25,034 14 6
To this sum must be added charges at Madras for boat hire, tarpaulins, peons, watching the boats, cooly hire, and weighing, which will amount to full one per cent. or C. Rs. — —	2,250 5 6
C. Rs. —	2,27,285 4 —

By this statement the rice purchased and sent from Bengal on the Company's account, stands the Company current rupees 9. 8 per bag.

Captain

Digitized by Google

Captain Mercer's rice when received into the Company's store at Madras, allowing his contract 3 per cent. for the treasure brought on the resolution, stands the Company — — —	7	10	4
Captain Mercer's rice, received as above, and without any allowance for freight of treasure, stands the Company	9	7	1
The rice purchased at Calcutta, and sent by Mr. Auriol on ship and doney tonnage, costs the Company when received at Madras — — —	9	8	—
The rice purchased at Calcutta, and sent by Mr. Auriol *on ship* tonnage, stands the Company, when received at Madras	10	8	6

A true copy.

(Signed) CHA. FREEMAN, Sec.

Ordered, That a copy of the above statement, enclosed in the letter from Fort St. George of the 21st December, be sent to the Agent for Supplies, for his remarks upon it.

Account of Treasure received per Resolution, Thomas Mercer, in the following Dates, viz.

1782.			
March 6. Received 22 chests of treasure, containing Sicca rupees, 172,413, or — — —	52,910	1	53
May 21. Ditto 5 ditto gold for C. Rs. 600,000, or — —	1,58,730	4	79
October 9. Ditto 5 ditto d° — d° 599,999. 15. 11, or — —	1,58,730	4	79
Pagodas —	3,70,370	10	51

(Signed) CHARLES FREEMAN, Ck. of Treasury.

A true copy.
(Signed) CHARLES FREEMAN, Secretary.

An Account of Rice received into Garrison Store at Fort St. George, from the 1st August, 1781, to 31st August, 1782, viz.

In consignment from Bengal, per invoices — — —	178,362	—	—
Purchased at Madras — —	111,999	—	—

In

In consignment from Masulipatam 406 garce 225 maunds, at 60 bags per garce — — —	24,393	— —
Bags —	314,754	— —

(Signed) A. BRODIE.
G. Storekeeper.

A true copy.
(Signed) CHARLES FREEMAN.
Secretary.

Ordered, That a copy of the above statement, enclosed in the letter from Fort St. George, of the 21st December, be sent to the Agent of Supplies, for his remarks upon it.

Extract of Bengal General Consultations, the 1st April, 1783.

Received the following letter from the agent for supplies:

Gentlemen,

I have been honoured by the official receipt of copies of the 41st, 42d, 43d, and 44th paragraphs of the general letter from the Court of Directors; dated 12th July 1782, concerning my late agency.

I cannot help being struck with the deepest concern, at finding that I have been the instrument of an appointment which stands annulled by the honourable the Court of Directors with such severe epithets of disapprobation; and I beg leave to express my acknowledgements to you for affording me a farther opportunity of endeavouring to remove their objections, which appear to have been obviously taken up from the premises then before them, unopposed by sufficient explanations or testimonies of its good effect, which I trust the present experience of it will justify: the commission was undoubtedly very high before your honourable Board thought fit to reduce it; and the honourable Court of Directors pass their judgement upon it in its original state; they were naturally struck with the sum, because it is certain that the gross, &c. undiminished amount of any commission, fixed at a specific rate is striking to the observation, while the drawbacks upon it, and the instances of its utility are various and imperceptible, until positively pointed out and defined. This is the chief object of the present letter.

At the time when the appointment was made, it was hoped and expected that the most material duties of it, being the supply of the Presidency of Fort St. George, would

Digitized by Google

would be of ſhort duration, and of no very conſiderable extent. I muſt declare, for my own part, that this was my opinion of it. The rate of commiſſion had many precedents, both of old and recent eſtabliſhment, to warrant it, which I could enumerate, and I believe was founded on the ſame principles with them; yet it has always ſuſtained ſeveral deductions from it, eſpecially before you reduced it. I beg leave to enumerate the following: I have maintained a conſtant eſtabliſhment of clerks and agents at my own expence; I have at different times ſent down European overſeers, entertained at high wages, to ſuperintend the loading of the Europe ſhips, and other ſervices, which required ſuperior management and attention, at my own expence. The number of agents of different kinds employed by me was neceſſarily great, but I have charged only for ſuch as were immediately ſtationed at the Company's fixed Golahs, or caſually employed in weighing off and ſhipping particular invoices, according to the ordinary cuſtom of merchants; and as long as the original commiſſion was allowed me, I never made any charge for the commiſſion of factors or agents whom I employed in diſtant parts. Mr. Hamilton at Coringa, for inſtance, ſecured a large quantity of the country tonnage for me at that place, charging me 5 per cent. commiſſion upon the amount, for his trouble in the firſt ſeaſon; which, while my own commiſſion would bear it, I conſidered as juſtly allowable out of it: for the preſent ſeaſon I agreed to pay him commiſſion upon ſuch tonnage only as he could procure under a certain price. This I have thought it neceſſary to charge to the Company, becauſe my own commiſſion had been reduced.

The above circumſtances ſhould be weighed in the general ſcope of reaſoning upon this ſubject, but a ſtill more important conſideration ſtarts up, which the honourable Court of Directors could not have been acquainted with; I mean the heavy charge of intereſt which I have ſuſtained, to prevent the public from ſuffering at times greater loſſes and greater inconveniences than any poſſible amount of my commiſſion: if it be urged, that by diſburſing more than my advances from the treaſury, I ſecured an ultimate benefit to myſelf; I reply, that with poſitive injunctions to carry my ſupplies to an unlimited extent, it was impoſſible to confine myſelf to my advances, without a manifeſt neglect of the public intereſts, becauſe both the periods and ſums of my advances were always uncertain, while my engagements were neceſſarily fixed and poſitive. Had I omitted to take early meaſures, through proper agents on the coaſt, to make timely advances to the owners of veſſels

Digitized by Google

ſels on account of freight, in order to ſecure as much tonnage as poſſible to be brought to me here, and had I waited the arrival of theſe veſſels which would have come under engagements to others, or have been ſent on ſpeculation for freight, I might indeed have been guided in the amount of my diſburſements by that of my advances; but I ſhould have paid a much higher rate for the ſame articles, and very ſcantily have fulfilled the object deſigned by my appointment. In ſhort, with all my ſtrenuous and poſſible exertions, it does not appear that the Preſidency of Madras was ever abundantly ſupplied with grain, but continually craving for more.

COPY

Digitized by Google

Copy of a Letter from John Murray, Esq. Commissary General at Fort William, to the Court of Directors of the East-India Company, dated 8th of February, 1784; together with a Postscript to the said Letter, dated 12th of February, 1784.

Honourable,

1. Mr. Scawen arrived at this Presidency about 18 months ago, with the appointment of an Assistant in the Commissary General's office on Captain's allowances, which amount to about 310 rupees per month.

2. About eight months after his arrival the Council appointed him Auditor of the Accounts, which had remained unexamined previous to my being Commissary General, with allowances exceeding 2,500 Sonaut rupees per month, although he had not served one hour in this department, to qualify himself for such an undertaking, thereby setting aside his immediate superior, the Deputy Commissary General, Mr. Atkinson, who has been 5½ years in this office, and is an old civil servant.

3. Notwithstanding the expence thus incurred, they were pleased, on the 6th ultimo, to order all the retrenchments previous to the 1st of May 1780, the day from which I commenced the control, to be written off to profit and loss.

4. And on the same day a majority thought proper to create a new office for the gentleman, under the name of Auditor General without the provinces, as well of the accounts of the Company's as of the Nabob's forces commanded by British officers; with allowances on the part of the Company nearly equal to those of the Commissary General, the difference between full and double full batta enjoyed beyond the provinces being tantamount to the commission on the revenues; and these allowances are exclusive of whatever the Nabob may be directed to grant.

5. The leading gentlemen in the Council did not consider it due either to the interests of the Company nor in civility to the Commissary General, to leave it to him to employ his assistants, according to their industry and capacities, but public report having announced that the above appointment was in agitation, I thought it an indispensable duty, both to the Company and to myself, to shew, before it should pass, that the appointment, and the consequent

consequent heavy expence, could not be entailed on the Company from any degree of necessity or expediency.

6. At the same time that I deemed this necessary I adopted a delicate mode of doing it; and therefore, without the most distant allusion to the above report, I enclosed a state of the audits of the accounts of the army, requesting it might be forwarded to you.

7. As this paper clearly proved that the check was closely kept up, the obvious inference was, that as the control of the multifarious accounts of the great army on the Bengal establishment was kept up in time of war, it would be easier to do so, on a reduced establishment in time of peace; consequently, that any new expence for that purpose was quite unnecessary; and this was all that I considered incumbent in me to shew, to prevent the idea that it had become requisite from any remissness or want of industry on my part; for so far as it merely respected Mr. Scawen's success, it could not fail to afford me satisfaction.

8. Some time afterwards I understood, that, in order to extend patronage, a plan was on foot, on the motion of the Governor General, to form a Committee of Accounts, on a scale of great emolument and expence, in room of the Board of Inspection; and that an opinion which I had delivered in May 1782 was adopted by some of the members of the Council, in justification of an assent to the Governor General's proposition.

9. This circumstauce, and the long experience I had of my letters, on important affairs of the Company, being piled up, unanswered and unrecorded, by the Board of Inspection, induced me to send a new state of the audits to the General Department, as they stood on the 9th December, so far as depended on this office; respectfully observing to the Board, that "if they would be pleased to afford "even a very moderate portion of their valuable time to "the department of inspection, which I hoped they might "now conveniently do, peace being happily re-established, "I was humbly confident the business of it might be expe"ditiously brought up, and be easily prevented from falling "again behind;" and indeed, I am so much convinced of this, that I have repeatedly told the members of the Board, that I would submit to the severest punishment if I did not transact in two hours in a week all the business of the Board of Inspection, so far as respects decision—the rest depends on a secretary.

10. The honourable Court will find, that the suggestion which I offered in May 1782 was that a member of the Board, the Commander in Chief, and Commissary General, might carry on the business of the department of inspec-

tion,

Digitized by Google

tion, without incurring one rupee of additional expence; but that measure was not adopted in the hurry and bustle of war, when it might have been useful; and it became unnecessary on the arrival of peace, because the Board can easily command time to do their own duty.

11. I am at a loss, therefore, to comprehend the ground upon which it could be alledged, that I gave countenance to a different institution, tending to embarrass and impede business, and to increase, needlessly, the Company's expence, which I have had many sleepless nights, and uneasy days, in endeavouring to moderate.

12. I am informed the proposition for this Committee has met with the pointed dissent of two members of the Board; and, as it has not yet been established, I would not have mentioned it here, if the casting voice at the Board had not connected it with my letter of the 9th December.

13. A few days after I sent in that letter with the last-mentioned statement of audits to the General Department, I received intimation that they had been pleased to allow the Adjutant General of India the original "salary of "30,000 rupees per annum, from the 5th April 1779 to "the 5th of August 1783, in full of all allowances of "commission on the revenues, perquisites, batta, field expences, emoluments, and considerations whatever, as "Adjutant-general of India, except the incidental charges "of his office."

14. As I was apprehensive that the honourable Court would not approve of this, when the amount drawn by the gentleman who held the staff appointment in question should be ascertained; as I know that though the Board had now authorized the salary of 30,000 rupees from the 5th of April 1779 for the office of Adjutant General of India, it was not established, if at all, till October 1780*; and as I also knew that some part of what was enumerated in their letter as not paid had been actually drawn, I was aware that if I failed in stating these circumstances, the gentlemen of the Administration might hereafter, when challenged for their conduct, probably endeavour to exculpate themselves by attempting to transfer the fault to the weaker shoulders of the Commissary General, for not having given them the necessary lights;—and I determined to put that out of their power.

15. For these reasons, in answer to their letter, I promised implicit obedience to their commands, by passing the 1,30,000 rupees whenever the bill should be presented; but, at the same time, in the faithful discharge of my duty, which was rendered particularly disagreeable by my

* Vide letter from the Board, dated 6th Nov. 1780, No. 13.

friendship

Digitized by Google

friendſhip for Colónel Owen, I ſtated what he had already drawn, and I believe I did ſo in terms perfectly reſpectful and unexceptionable.

16. The honourable Court will therefore, I doubt not, be as much aſtoniſhed at reading, as I was at receiving, the Board's letter of the 27th ultimo, wherein they take exception at my addreſſes of the 9th and 26th December, and poſitively forbid my communicating to them my ſentiments regarding ſuch part of their proceedings as relate to military charges.

17. But the letters of the 9th and 26th December not affording the ſlighteſt grounds for taking offence, it was impoſſible to attribute to them ſuch a return from the Board, and therefore the honourable Court would be as much at a loſs as I ſhould be to diſcover the true ſource of that ill humour, if I had not recollected having written an unofficial letter to Mr. Haſtings early in December laſt, that might lead him to expect an official addreſs relative to the alarming magnitude of the military charges, which, for the year 1781-2, exceeded two crores and ſeventy-five lacks of rupees.

18. But though the expence of large armies muſt ever be conſiderable, the enormity of this ſum has not proceeded ſo much from the regular eſtabliſhed allowances of the officers, which ought always to be liberal, as from contracts and the other effects of favouritiſm.

19. It being a duty preſcribed to the Commiſſary General, through the channel of the Board, that he ſhould animadvert on their proceedings regarding military charges, whenever he ſhould ſee ground for ſo doing, I have often confidentially expreſſed my uneaſineſs to ſome members of the Board, leſt my not having more pointedly done ſo ſhould be imputed to me at home as a fault, although I could not do it with ſafety, becauſe the Governor General would not believe that any one who ſhould pourtray the ſituation of the Company's finances, did not ſeek more to render him ill offices than to do good to the company—and, having a conſtant majority, would treat him accordingly.

20. But though this delicacy towards the Governor General, added to a little attention to my own official ſafety, made me cautious in acting with the vigour which I wiſhed to be able to ſhew, yet it occurred, that if I ſhould communicate my mind to him unofficially, it might anſwer two good purpoſes; firſt, that of producing benefit to the Company; and ſecondly, that of ſhewing him that I wiſhed to avoid a meaſure which might be diſagreeable, by giving previous notice of my intentions, and thereby affording him an opportunity of taking to himſelf the merit of bringing

Digitized by Google

bringing the Company's expence within the ſcale of their abilities.

21. In this tone of mind I wrote to him the accompanying letter, which will communicate to you a more ſerious, and perhaps a more correct, though abſtract view of your affairs, than volumes of controverſial minutes could do. I ſhewed the letter to Colonel Muir before I diſpatched it, and he can atteſt the fact reſpecting the native troops.

22. The meaſure of ſerving out grain was immediately adopted, though without any intimation from whom the hint had been received; but the apprehenſion that this laſt-mentioned letter would be followed by an official repreſentation, made ſuch impreſſions, that I impute to them the prohibition contained in the letter of the 27th ultimo, which is tranſcribed from a minute of the Governor's, written when Meſſrs. Macpherſon and Stables were abſent from town. One of thoſe gentlemen is ſaid to have thought the letter of the 9th December ſo far from improper, that it is ſurmiſed he referred to it as the beſt argument againſt the unneceſſary appointment of an Auditor General, which, as I muſt re-examine the accounts in order to control his audits, cannot poſſibly, notwithſtanding the great expence of the inſtitution, ſave me any trouble, and is prejudicial to the officers of the army, and to the paymaſters, by the circuitous mode preſcribed for obtaining final audit of their bills and accounts.

23. Perhaps there was alſo another motive for the above prohibition; for I had intimated intentions of remonſtrating againſt loſſes to which the Company has been ſubjected by the Board's paſſing bills contrary to the Company's orders, without audit or knowing the rates, and by receiving and deciding appeals, without calling on the Commiſſary General to ſupport his audits, which were founded on the public ordinances; but, as "the Board do "not require the Commiſſary General's remarks on their "orders," they thought it beſt to forbid them entirely, leſt they might attract the notice of the honourable Court.

24. So far therefore from being uneaſy under the inſult offered by the letter of the 27th ultimo, I really value it as a teſtimony of having aimed at doing my duty.

25. I do not mean to comment on the conduct of the majority of the Board on the points above ſpecified; I have ſtated facts as they occurred, and have ſupported them by official documents.—Theſe I leave to the ſerious conſideration of the honourable Court, ſubmitting to their wiſdom how far ſuch conduct is faithful towards the Company, or juſt towards the Commiſſary General.

26. I only beg that I may not be held reſpoſible for not exerciſing the power granted by the honourable Court, of

remarking

Digitized by Google

remarking for their information on the proceedings of Government relative to military charges, seeing that it is evident I neither can, nor ever could freely do so, with any degree of security.

27. And here I hope I may be permitted, in all humility, to observe, that the above-mentioned authority can never yield the good effects it was calculated to produce to the Company, until the honourable Court shall declare their Commissary General for the time being answerable solely to them, and so far independent of the Administration here, as that he shall not be removeable by them from his office, either by dismission, suspension, supercession, or by any other direct or indirect means, and may freely and securely discuss their proceedings relative to military charges.

28. I am disinterested on this humble opinion, because my constitution is so much worn down by unremitting labours for the benefit of the Company, that it is possible I shall not be able, however much I may struggle, to continue them so long as until I can hear what the pleasure of the honourable Court may be regarding what I have thus submissively stated; which, If I live till then, will determine whether I shall continue my official exertions, or retire.

29. Permit me in conclusion just to observe, that although the Board have been pleased to withhold from the Commissary General the brevet military rank annexed to the office by its original constitution, they have granted the rank, pay, and allowances of a Lieutenant Colonel to a surgeon Major! concerning which, all that I shall at present say is, that I would venture my life there is no man in this country who would seriously alledge that such treatment is a suitable return for my zealous services to the Company, which are known throughout India; but I look much farther for reward, and I am humbly confident I will not be disappointed in the firm reliance I have that I shall obtain it from the justice of the honourable Court, who must be sensible of the value of servants who attend to their own interests so little, as to attempt faithfully their duty under the discouraging frowns of power.

30. I have only to add, that if there is any irregularity in my presuming to address the honourable Court, I beg it may be imputed to those who have left me no other alternative, than either to adopt this direct mode of address, or to leave the Company to suffer severely by the honourable Court's remaining strangers to the bold manœuvre of shutting up the Commissary General's official powers, and thereby depriving the Company of lights highly important to their interests.

31. Candour however requires, that I should declare that Messrs. Stables and Macpherson, who have shewn

Digitized by Google

sincere dispositions for the good of the Company, are not parties to this unconstitutional measure: I do not yet know how far Mr. Wheler is; and the transaction is altogether so unlike the line of his conduct, that I can scarcely persuade myself it received his assent.

I have the honour to be,
With all possible deference and respect,
Honourable,
Your very faithful,
And most humble servant,
JOHN MURRAY,
Commy. General.

Commy. Genl's. Office,
Fort William,
8th February 1784.

To the Honourable the Court of Directors for Affairs of the Honourable United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies, London.

POSTSCRIPT.

Mr. Wheler having been out of town when the preceding letter was written, I had not an opportunity of conversing with him before I finished it; but I have since had the satisfaction to learn from himself, that my conjecture was not unfounded; for, after reading, at my request, the letters of the 9th and 26th December, with the state of the audits referred to, he acknowledged, without hesitation, that he did not consider either of them objectionable; and assured me, that so far from having given his assent to the Board's letter of the 27th January, the subject had never been mentioned to him; and that he believed the minute had neither been written nor read in the Council room.

Thus in the absence of two members of the Board, the Governor General formed, in his own person, a majority; and, without the ceremony of consulting the only one of his colleagues who was in town, issued in the name of Government, a mandate, subversive of the most useful institution, without any exception, in the Company's service; but the ill effects to the Company will be the same, all check being destroyed, as if the measure had passed at a full Board.

Without troubling the honourable Court with any of my own remarks, I leave it to them to consider how far it may be proper to overlook the Governor General's assumption of such absolute power, and for such purposes; and even with all the wisdom of the Court, it will require their utmost

most penetration to foresee the whole extent of the consequences that might result from it.

I enclose a present state of the audits of military accounts; and shall only trespass on your time, to entreat that you will believe me to be, with the most sincere attachment to the interests of the Company, and with the most profound respect for the honourable Court,

Honourable,

Your most humble,

And one of your most faithful servants,

12th Feb. 1784. JOHN MURRAY,

Commy. Genl.

Lest the honourable Court, upon finding nothing unsuited to the line of my duty in the letters of 9th and 26th December, should imagine, that perhaps some of the letters of the 24th June, 18th October, and 11th November, referred to in the Board's of the 27th ultimo, had been improper, I enclose copies of them to shew the contrary.

And I forward, at the same time, a copy of the order which produced the letter of the 24th June.

(ENCLOSURE, N° 1.)

Extract of a General Letter from the Honourable the Court of Directors to the Honourable the Governor General and Council; dated 17*th May* 1780.

Par. 2. Having thought fit to appoint Mr. John Scawen to be an assistant in the office of our Commissary General at Fort William, it is our pleasure that Mr. Scawen do in the above station receive Captain's pay and emoluments; and in case of vacancy in the said office, by the death, promotion, or removal of our Commissary General, or Deputy Commissary General, it is our farther pleasure, and we hereby direct, that Mr. Scawen do succeed to the office of Deputy Commissary General, with the usual pay and allowances, and also to the office of Commissary General, when the same shall become vacant, and he shall be entitled thereto by regular succession.

(Signed) J. P. AURIOL, Secretary.

A true copy.

(Signed) Wm. Bushby, Secretary.

A true extract.

W. Atkinson, Dep. Commy. Genl.

Digitized by Google

(ENCLOSURE, N° 3.)

Extract of a Letter from the Commissary General to the Honourable Board of Inspection; dated 19th January 1783.

I have the interest of the army most sincerely at heart; and I have a very lively sense of the hardships to which the gentlemen on the coast are unavoidably subjected, by being so much in arrear; but it is my humble opinion that the regulations of Government ought to be obeyed; and that any relief which could be afforded should be administered in any other way rather than by suffering deviations from them, unless where the General's discretional powers may happen to be exercised.

A Committee of Inspection for expediting business, at which one of your number should preside, appeared to me so very necessary, that I took the liberty of suggesting the measure a considerable time ago: I have occasionally reminded you of it; and whenever you shall be pleased to adopt that humble proposition, I will pledge myself the great load of business which has lain over these two years, in the department of inspection, may be brought up in two months, and that the business may, without much difficulty, be afterwards kept up.

With respect to Mr. Tierney's desire to appoint a person with the Commissary General's powers to accompany him to the coast, a complete and intimate knowledge of the multifarious regulations of this service cannot possibly be attained without considerable experience, and critical attention to the letter and spirit of them; but I conceive that Mr. Tierney and his deputy, in the course of two years, may have acquired an accurate knowledge of the established charges; these are all they have any business to pay without special authority; for however active any campaign may be, there is a sufficient number of Staff Officers, exclusive of the Paymaster, to commit to writing, from time to time, the orders of the Commander in Chief respecting extra charges, which will take the responsibility off the Paymaster; and if any Paymaster could propose to himself only to issue money, and to cause the accounts disbursements to be written out after previous audit of all the bills, little else, as I observed on a former occasion, would be left to such Paymaster than the trouble of drawing his commission and allowances; but in such case the appointment would be of very little utility to the Company; and a Paymaster so situated could not expect to be rewarded by a commission of one and an half per cent., and by the other usual allowances of that situation: These are liberal, and are

Digitized by Google

are meant as well for the trouble of examining the accounts in the first instance, as in consideration of some risques; but a distinct Paymaster runs very few, especially since the orders of the 2d of October last were issued, impowering them to recover retrenchments by stoppages. If I consulted my own case only, I would most earnestly cherish the idea of complying with Mr. Tierney's request; but my sense of duty obliges me humbly to pronounce, from experience, that it would only tend, in my opinion, to an increase of expence, without answering any good purpose to the Company.

A true extract.

W. ATKINSON,
Dep. Commy. Genl.

(ENCLOSURE, N° 4.)

Extract of a Letter from the Commissary General, addressed to the Honourable Board of Inspection; dated 22d April 1783.

In your commands of the 14th instant, received yesterday, allusion is made to an appointment of Mr. Scawen, by the honourable the Court of Directors, to officiate in the line of my department, with a certain pay.

As you have been pleased to grant him pay and allowances annexed to the office of Commissary General, house rent and office rent excepted, for one year, including the pay which he now draws, and as I have not yet received any official notice, either respecting the nature of his appointment by the Court of Directors, or the pay annexed to it, I request that you will be pleased to direct an extract of their general letter on this subject to be sent to me, or communication of the substance of it; so as that, by knowing the pay established for him by the honourable Court, I may be enabled to ascertain, agreeable to your orders, the amount of the allowances you have been pleased to grant to him; which I cannot otherwise do, because he has not hitherto, as far as I know, drawn any pay, not having yet officiated in any capacity in this department, though I am persuaded he would have attended if he had been required.

However respectable Mr. Scawen's abilities may be, it is, with great submission, morally impossible that he should be able to execute the duties you have prescribed to him, without considerable previous expence; but, in order that your intentions may not be entirely defeated, and as I have also very good dispositions towards him, I will cheerfully contribute every instruction and information that may be in my power, to render his appointment as useful to the Company

as the nature of it can admit, as far as I can do so with a proper attention to the current business, which indeed is the most essential service I can render to the Company.

A true extract.

W. ATKINSON,
Dep. Commy. Genl.

(ENCLOSURE, Nº 5.)

(Copy.)

Mr. John Murray, Commissary General.

SIR,

In obedience to the Commands of the honourable the Governor General and Council, I have to inform you, that they have been pleased to order that the retrenchments prior to 30th April 1780 be wrote off to profit and loss on the military books, as recommended by the military Paymaster General in his letters of the 15th July and 29th August.

I am, Sir,
Your most obedient, humble servant,
(Signed) WILLIAM BRUERE,
Secretary.

Genl. Dept.
Council Chamber,
the 6th Janry. 1784.

A true copy.
W. ATKINSON,
Dep. Commy. Genl.

(ENCLOSURE, Nº 6.)

Minutes of Council, 6th January 1784.

As it was not the intention of Government, when they removed the Paymasters who were not covenanted servants of the Company from their offices, and ordered that they should deliver over the same on the 31st July last, to deprive them of any part of the commission due on the military disbursements, which ought to have been discharged previous to the 31st of July, had there been money in the hands of the several Paymasters sufficient for that purpose.

The Board have therefore been pleased to direct, that the Paymaster General do calculate the commission on the Paymaster's disbursements, in the usual manner, but that he shall transfer the commission on all military charges incurred previous to the 31st July 1783, which he may find entered on the Paymaster's disbursements for the next six months,

months, that is, from 1st August 1783, to 31st January 1784, to the credit of the Paymasters to whom it properly belongs.

But as it would be an injustice to the Paymasters who have the trouble of paying bills, on which their predecessors are to draw the commission, to be answerable for the Commissary General's retrenchments on those bills;

Ordered, That the Paymaster General and Commissary General do keep a separate account of such retrenchments; and that the former debit the late Paymasters for the same, and call on them to refund the amount after the usual time allowed for the recovery of retrenchments: and farther, that all the trouble and risque of recovering the retrenchments on the above-mentioned bills shall appertain to the Paymasters who have been dismissed, and who are to receive the commission on them.

Agreed, in conformity to the orders of the honourable the Court of Directors, that Mr. John Wombwell be appointed Paymaster General to the troops serving beyond the Carumnassa, whether of the Company's fixed establishment, or in the service of the Nabob Vizier, commanded by British Officers; that all payments from the Nabob Vizier on account thereof be issued immediately to the Paymaster General. And it is farther

Agreed, that the following regulations be established for the said office of Paymaster General, viz.

1st. That the military Paymaster General of the troops stationed beyond the provinces do advise the military Paymaster General at the Presidency of all his receipts from the Nabob Vizier on account of the troops stationed beyond the provinces, on the day he receives the same.

2d. That the military Paymaster General out of the provinces do issue the money to the several Paymasters under him, as it is required, taking their receipts for the same, and being particularly careful that they do not hold any balance of cash in their hands, under any pretence whatsoever.

3d. That the military Paymaster General out of the provinces do transmit to the military Paymaster General at the Presidency a monthly abstract of his receipts and issues, to enable him to adjust his accounts with the Accomptant General; he will likewise transmit to the Accomptant General's office.

That the Paymaster at Cawnpore and Futty Ghur, the Paymaster to the troops serving in the zemindary of Benares, except the garrison of Chunar, be advised by the military Paymaster General that they are to consider themselves, from the 1st day of March next, under the orders of the military Paymaster General out of the provinces, and

and that they are to render him their accounts in the same manner as they have hitherto done to the military Paymaster General.

That the military Paymaster General out of the provinces be furnished by the Commissary General with complete establishments of all the corps that are to be put under his payment, and that he be supplied from the military Paymaster General's office with copies of all general orders respecting the office of Paymaster, published since the 1st August 1779.

That the military Paymaster General out of the provinces be directed to check the Paymaster's accounts current as soon as they are received in his office, and afterwards to transmit them, without delay, to the Paymaster General's office at the Presidency, pointing out at the bottom of each account the errors he may find, of which he will regularly advise the Paymasters, that they may immediately correct these errors in their next month's account current.

That after the Paymaster's disbursements are audited, the Auditor General will transmit them to the military Paymaster General out of the provinces, as well as to the different Paymasters, with the particulars of the retrenchments which he has made; and the military Paymaster General out of the provinces must be careful that the Paymasters under his authority do credit him in their accounts current for the same, agreeable to the orders of the 9th of June last.

That the monthly reports and estimates, which are now transmitted to the military Paymaster General's office by the Paymasters who are to be under the orders of the military Paymaster General out of the provinces, in future be delivered to the military Paymaster General out of the provinces, who will make out a general report and estimate from them, specifying the balance in the hands of each Paymaster, as well as the balance in his own hands, and transmit the same to the military Paymaster General, by the 20th day of every month.

Resolved, That Mr. John Scawen be appointed to the office of Auditor General of the accounts of the troops serving without the Company's Dewannee provinces, to the westward of the Caramnassa, whether of the strength of the Company's regular establishment, or in the service of the Nabob Vizier, commanded by British officers, with the exception of the garrison of Chunar.

That it be the duty of the Auditor General to audit and pass the disbursement of these troops, and to transmit accounts of his retrenchments to the separate Paymasters, and

and copies thereof to the Commissary General in Calcutta.

That the Auditor General do correspond with, and receive instructions from the Commissary General, according to the regulations established for his office.

That the Auditor General do transmit all contingent bills to the Commissary General, who shall report the same in the usual manner to the Board, the which having passed the Board, the Commissary General will return them to the Auditor General, to be re-delivered by him to the officers to whom they may belong, and who will then present them to the respective Paymasters to be discharged.

That the Auditor General shall ultimately transmit the account of his retrenchments on the fixed, as well as on all disbursements, to the Commissary General, to be entered in the books of his office, and to receive his final control and sanction.

(Signed) WILLIAM BRUERE,
Secretary.

A true copy.
W. Atkinson,
Dep. Commy. Genl.

(ENCLOSURE, N° 7.)

Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, &c: Council.

Gentlemen,

I request that you will be pleased to do me the favour of forwarding to the honourable the Court of Directors, by the packet which you have notified is under dispatch, the enclosed memorandum, shewing the present state of the accounts of the army on this establishment. It specifies the last disbursements received in this office, the last audited, and those under examination.

I have the pleasure to remark, that I have twice within the last month applied for accounts, and you will perceive that several of them have not been many days in hand.

I flatter myself it will be satisfactory to the honourable Court to find, that the check of the heavy and extensive military accounts of this Presidency is closely kept up; and as the establishments are decreasing in consequence of the peace, the business may no doubt be executed with a less toilsome industry than has hitherto been necessary, though it will ever require the steady application of an undissipated mind, with a particular share of the attention and support of

of Government, exclusive of that degree of dispatch in the department of inspection, which the return of peace will enable the honourable Board to give.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Very respectfully,

Your most obedient, and

Faithful servant,

(Signed) JOHN MURRAY,

Commy. Genl.

Commy. Genl's. Office,
1st September 1783.

A true copy.

W. ATKINSON,

Dep. Commy. Genl.

(ENCLO-

Digitized by Google

(ENCLOSURE, N°. 8.)

Present State of the Accounts of the Army on the Bengal Establishment, shewing the last Disbursements received in the Commissary General's Office, the last audited, and those that remain for Audit.

Disbursements.	*Last received in this Office, and when.*		*Last audited.*	*Remarks.*
Garrison and artillery —	April 1783	27th June 1783	April 1783	
1st brigade — —	June 1783	23d August 1783	June 1783	A heavy disbursement of 3½ lacks; the audit is finished, and the retrenchments will be dispatched on Wednesday next.
2d do. — —	May 1783	Do.	May 1783	
3d do. — —	July 1783	Do.	July 1783	
Bombay detachment —	June 1782	30th April 1683	June 1782	
Madras do. — —	June 1782	10th July 1783	June 1782	
Garrison of Chunar —	June 1783	6th August 1783	June 1783	
* Do. — Buxar —	April 1783	27th June 1783	April 1783	
* Patna Magazine —	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	
* Ramgur — —	May 1783	Do.	May 1783	
* Islamabad — —	March 1783	Do.	March 1783	
* Moradbaug — —	April 1783	8th May 1783	April 1783	
* Patna — —	March 1783	23d August 1783	March 1783	
* Dacca — —	July 1783	Do.	July 1783	
* Burdwan — —	April 1783	27th June 1783	April 1783	
* Dinagepoore — —	Do.	Do.	Do.	

Digitized by Google

Paymaster General	—	June 1783	23d August 1783	June 1783	
Cavalry corps —	—	May 1783	17th July 1783	April 1783	May stopped by want of returns for that month.
Futtygur detachment	—	Do.	6th August 1783	May 1783	
Blair's detachment	—	June 1783	Do.	June 1783	
* Boglepore Militia	—	July 1783	23d August 1783	July 1783	
Ditto Invalid sepoys	—	June 1783	Do.	—	Mr. Cleveland's accounts are not to be audited by the Commissary General. See letter from the Board of Revenue, 19th instant.
Agent for boats	—	May and June 1783	Do.	—	These are the only accounts of boat charges received in this office, since the commencement of the agency: cannot be audited for want of an answer from the Board of Inspection to a request of the Commissary General's, dated 21st August 1781, repeated in subsequent applications. Neither do any vouchers accompany these accounts.

Perhaps the Paymasters of the Bombay and Madras detachments might have brought up their accounts farther; but I do not know that the rest of the Paymasters could.

Most of the assistants and clerks are, at present, employed in preparing materials for the annual report of increases and decreases, which will probably throw back the current business near a month.

The disbursements marked *, being small, and the retrenchments usually inconsiderable, were heretofore only audited half yearly, or yearly.

A true copy.

W. ATKINSON,
Deputy Commissary General.

Digitized by Google

(ENCLOSURE, N° 9.)

To the Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Council.

Gentlemen,

I request you will be pleased to communicate to the honourable the Court of Directors, by the ships under dispatch, the enclosed present state of the accounts of the army on this establishment as far as depends on this office; and if you shall be pleased to afford even a very moderate portion of your valuable time to the department of inspection, which I hope you may now conveniently do, peace being happily re-established, I am humbly confident that the business of it may be expeditiously brought up, and be easily prevented from falling again behind.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient,

Humble servant,

(Signed) JOHN MURRAY,

Commy. General.

Commy. Genl.'s Office,
9th December 1783.

A true copy.

W. ATKINSON,

Depy. Comy. Genl.

(ENCLO-

Digitized by Google

(ENCLOSURE, No. 10.)

Present State of the Accounts of the Army on the Bengal Establishment, shewing the last Disbursements received in the Commissary General's Office, the last audited, and those that remain for Audit, 9th December 1783.

Disbursements.	Last received in this Office, and when.		Last audited.	Remarks.
Garrison and artillery	September 1783	28th October 1783	September 1783	
1st brigade	August 1783	Do.	August 1783	
2d do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	
3d do.	September	Do.	September	
Bombay detachment	August 1782	11th September 1783	August 1782	
Madras do.	June 1782	10th July 1783	June 1782	
Garrison of Chunar	August 1783	10th October 1783	August 1783	
Do. — of Buxar	April 1783	27th June 1783	April 1783	
Patna magazine	Do.	Do	Do.	
Ramgur	September 1783	28th October 1783	September 1783	
Islamabad	Do.	Do.	Do.	
Moraudbaug	Do.	10th do.	Do.	
Patna	March 1783	23d August	March 1783	
Dacca	September 1783	28th October 1783	September 1783	
Burdwan	Do.	10th do.	Do.	
Dinagepore	August 1783	10th do.	August 1783	
Paymaster General	September 1783	21st November	September 1783	
Cavalry corps	May 1783	17th July	May 1783	Corps dissolved 25th April 1783, paid up to the 31st May.
Futtyghur detachment	August 1783	24th September 1783	August 1783	
Blair's do.	Do.	10th do.	Do.	
Boglepore militia	September 1783	Do.	September 1783	
Do. invalid sepoys	July 1783	Do.	Not to be audited in this office.	
Agent for boats	May and June 1783	23d August 1783	—	These are the only months received in this office, and cannot be audited for want of an answer from the Board of Inspection to a letter from the Commissary General, dated 22d Aug. 1781, repeated in various applications since. No vouchers accompany these accts.

A true copy.

W. ATKINSON,
Depy. Comy. Genl.

Digitized by Google

(ENCLOSURE, N° 11.)

The Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Board of Inspection.

Gentlemen,

I beg leave to lay before you copy of an application which I have received from Major Erskine, in consequence of the enclosed extract of the general letter from the Court of Directors, dated the 14th of April 1779.

I have not made any particular reply to the Major's question, because the orders which I have received on the point leave me at some loss how to act; for the late Commissary General having submitted to you a claim of Captain James Dickson, founded upon the same paragraph, the demand was rejected; whereas Captain Hook was lately sucessful in a like claim upon the same grounds, owing, I presume, either to the force of some new arguments offered by him, or perhaps to the want of recollection of the decision of Captain Dickson's case; which is not surprising, considering that the multiplicity of business with which you are loaded in various departments must render it impossible to give the mind equally to all, more especially in times when the political line requires so great and constant attention: but, as the finances are the sinews of war, the importance of directing an observant eye to the application of them is manifest; and that consideration, with a hearty disposition to be, if possible, more useful, has often made me wish (and I have occasionally expressed it before) that the original institution, by which the Commissary General was admitted to a seat at the Board of Inspection, had not fallen into disuse. All orders relative to military expences, in whatsoever department passed, must be communicated to him; and as they form the sole object of his official attention, it seems to be very obvious, that he might be of great assistance in the department of inspection; or if a Committee of Control of Military Accounts was established, consisting of such Members of the Superior Board as might chuse to attend, one of whom should always preside, and of the Commander in Chief, and Commissary General for the time being, I am humbly confident that ease and satisfaction would result to you, with benefit to the Company, and greater dispatch to business, than it is possible to give on the present plan; but when I have ventured this suggestion, I beg I may not be misunderstood; your approbation of it would only be a source of additional trouble to me, without advantage or emolument; and nothing could have drawn from me these sentiments, but a desire of asing you, and of rendering every service in my power

Digitized by Google

to the Company, whose interests I have most sincerely at heart.

I beg to be favoured with your instructions relative to Major Erskine's claim, and

I have the honour to be,
Gentlemen,
Your most obedient
Humble servant,
(Signed) JOHN MURRAY,
Comy. General.

Comy. Genl.'s Office,
2d May 1782.

A true copy.
W. ATKINSON,
Dep. Com. Gen.

(ENCLOSURE, N° 12.)

To John Murray, Esquire, Commissary General.

SIR,

In obedience to the command of the honourable the Governor General and Council, I am to inform you that they have been pleased to allow Lieutenant-colonel Owen the original salary allotted for the office of Adjutant General of India, viz. 30,000 Sonaut rupees per annum, from the 5th April 1779, the date of his appointment, to the 5th August 1783, which was nearly the time when he received the orders of the honourable the Court of Directors disallowing that appointment, and as the salary was granted him in full of all allowances of commission on the revenues, requisites, batta, field expences, emoluments, and all considerations whatever, as Adjutant General, except the incidental expences of the office.

I am,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) WM. BRUERE,
Sec.

Genl. Departmt.,
Council Chamber,
the 15th Decem. 1783.

A true copy.
W. ATKINSON,
Dep. Com. Gen.

(ENCLOSURE, N° 13.)

Mr. John Murray, Commissary General.

SIR,

The honourable the Governor General and Council having lately taken into consideration the present establishment of the office of Lieutenant-colonel Owen, Adjutant General,

Digitized by Google

General, which, in the present state of it, is found to be inadequate to the real expence incurred; and having been pleased to resolve, that he should be allowed to draw for the monthly amount of the incidental expences of it, from the 26th October last; namely, writers, stationary, postage of letters, and an office when he is not in the field, declaring on the foot of each bill for the same, that it is true upon honour, I am directed to inform you of this resolution, that his bills, so drawn and certified, may be passed. — I am also directed to acquaint, that the salary now received by Lieutenant-colonel Owen, as Adjutant General, is to be suspended until the pleasure of the honourable Court of Directors concerning it shall be known.

I am, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
Council Chamber, (Signed) E. HAY,
6th Nov. 1780. Acting Secretary.

(ENCLOSURE, N° 14.)

The Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Council.

Gentlemen,

I received, on the 24th instant, your commands of the 15th, directing a salary of 30,000 rupees per annum to be passed for Colonel Owen, as Adjutant General of India, from the 5th of April, 1779, till the 5th of August last, and I will pay implicit obedience to your orders whenever the bill for the money, amounting to 1,30,000 rupees, shall be presented; in the mean time, it is my duty to acquaint you, that I never received any previous intimation of the establishment of the said salary of 30,000 rupees; and that Colonel Owen, according to your regulations, drew the established allowances for the office of Adjutant General of Bengal from April, 1779, till October, 1780, with the pay of his rank, and from that period 4,420 rupees per month, upon honour, as the incidental charges of his office as Adjutant General of India and Bengal, exclusive of the pay and batta of his rank, and allowances for off-reckonings, but nothing under the head "Pay" or "Salary," in his staff capacity, from the said month of October, 1780.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your most obedient, humble servant,
(Signed) JOHN MURRAY,
Commy General's Office, Commissary General.
26th Dec. 1783.

A true copy.
W. Atkinson,
Deputy Commissary General.

Digitized by Google

(ENCLOSURE, N° 15.)

Mr. James Murray, Commissary General.

SIR,

I obey the commands of the honourable the Governor General and Council, in acknowledging the receipt of your letters of the 24th June, 18th October, 11th November, and 9th and 26th December, and transmitting to you their answers to them severally; and I have noted in the margin the date of the letters to which each paragraph particularly refers.

The Board have directed the Military Paymaster General to call upon the attornies of Major Fairfax for the amount of pay advanced them on his account since his departure *.

The Board have thought proper to fix the establishment for Mr. Wombwell's office, agreeably to that assigned to the Military Paymaster General, with the exception of the share of commission allowed to the latter on the revenues, and a reduction in the allowance for writers, of 300 rupees per month †, viz.

Establishment same as the youngest in Council	746	13	—
Lieutenant-colonel's batta for a month of 30 days - - -	600	—	—
For himself	1,346	13	—

Establishment for Paymaster-General's Office.

House rent - - -	400	—	—
Clerks and writers - -	1,000	—	—
Candles - - -	60	—	—
Jemadars and peons - -	30	—	—
Durwan and master - -	10	—	—
Duftories - - -	21	—	—
Banian, sircars, and shroffs - -	364	—	—
	2,185	—	—

The allowances of the Auditor General are to be determined by the same rule, viz. the establishment to be the same with that drawn by the Commissary General, with the exception of the commission on the revenues, and a similar reduction of 300 rupees in the allowance for writers.

" The Board cannot avoid expressing their displeasure at " the very great impropriety of the representations con-

* *24th June.* † *18th October.*

" tained

Digitized by Google

"tained in these letters*; and desire that the Commissary "General will confine himself to his own duty, without "assuming a liberty, as unbecoming in him to attempt, as "it would be in them to suffer, of animadverting on theirs. "They are sorry to be under the necessity of making this "observation on the conduct of the Commissary General, "which has been too often marked with the same disrespect, "and seems, in this instance, too pointedly to allude to a "question which, at the time he wrote the letter, was "under the consideration of the Board, a circumstance to "which he could not be a stranger. The Board do not "require the remarks of the Commissary General on their "orders, but his obedience to them, and must desire that "he will not send them such improper addresses in future."

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient, dumble servant,

General Department, (Signed) WM. BRUERE,
Council Chamber, Secretary.
the 27th Jan. 1784.

A true copy.

W. ATKINSON,
Deputy Commissary General.

(ENCLOSURE, N° 16.)

Extract Report of the Committee of the Court of Directors, dated 10th December, 1772.

It is the farther opinion of this Committee, that no bill of military charges whatever be at any time paid, by any Paymasters or other person, until certified by the Commissary General in writing under his hand.

That in all cases wherein the Governor and Council shall overrule the opinion of the Commissary General, he be directed to deliver a dissent in writing, containing his reasons at large for his dissenting from their proceedings; and that such dissent be entered upon their Consultations.

A true extract.

W. ATKINSON,
Deputy Commissary General.

(ENCLOSURE, N° 17.)

Extract of Consultations, dated 30th October, 1773.

Read again the 56th, 57th, and 58th paragraphs of the general letter, dated 7th April last, respecting the appointment of the Commissary General, with the Report of the

* *9th and 26th December.*

Digitized by Google

Committee of the Court of Directors upon the same subject.

Agreed, That it is the opinion of this Board, from the above documents, that Mr. M'Lean's appointment is to be Commissary General.

That his rank is that of Colonel in the army by brevet, but without performing military duty, or receiving military pay, batta, or emoluments.

That his appointments are the salary and emoluments annexed to the station of the youngest counsellor.

That his authority is to control and regulate all Paymasters and Contractors, to audit and certify all bills for military charges, by formation of such new institutions as he judges may contribute to the better regulation and reduction of the military expences, to be submitted to the approbation of the Board.

It farther appearing, from the above paragraphs and Report of the Committee, that it is the intention of the honourable Court of Directors to give Mr. M'Lean a peculiar and separate degree of responsibility in all matters immediately entrusted to his management, they having for that purpose confined his attention to these objects, and given him a privilege of recording his dissent to any measure regarding them, which may be adopted by the Board, it is thought expedient, and consonant to these orders, to give him a share in the deliberations of the Board upon them.

Resolved therefore, That Mr. Maclean be at all times summoned to attend the Board of Inspection when military accounts or regulations are to come under their consideration; that his advice be required upon them, and that he be allowed a free deliberation, but not a decisive voice in that Board, reserving always his right of recording his dissent from the determination, if he thinks fit, according to the orders of the Court of Directors.

These being the ground work of the instructions, which we are enjoined to draw out for the conduct of the Commissary General;

Agreed, That before we proceed to form them, he be furnished with a copy of these conclusions, and that he be desired to communicate to us his sentiments upon such additional powers or orders as may more effectually enable him to answer the design of his appointment.

Fort William, 30th October, 1773.

Extract of Consultations.

(ENCLO-

Digitized by Google

(ENCLOSURE, N° 18.)

SIR,

Having come up on a viſit to Colonel Muir, I have learnt that the diſtreſſes of the troops for want of pay are inexpreſſibly ſevere and affecting; many of the ſepoys have been relieved from the guards at Fort William, on account of weakneſs for want of food. The Colonel tells me that only forty thouſand of the two lacks promiſed have been received.

In converſing on the ſubject, a thought occurred to me, which I think may produce a mitigation of the diſtreſſes of the troops, and of courſe avert any irregularity that men of the moſt placid diſpoſitions might be driven to in extreme neceſſity; it is, that Government, having a large ſtock of grain at preſent on hand, ſhould immediately ſerve out ſome of it to the natives at a reaſonable valuation, in lieu of part of their arrears; and the conviction I have of the good tendency of this idea, induces me to communicate it to you per expreſs.

The unſupportable expence that falls under my own eye, is one of the principal ſources of the preſent diſtreſſes, and is ſo infinitely beyond the abilities of the Company, that I have very often intended to addreſs Government in their ſecret department with my ſentiments officially and at large upon the ſubject; but the apprehenſion that my motives might be miſconſtrued, that the portrait which I ſhould be obliged to draw, in order to ſhew the indiſpenſable neceſſity of an immediate, vigorous, and undiſtinguiſhing œconomy, might be imputed to other impulſes than a ſenſe of duty, has hitherto prevented me.

I have the honour to be,
With great reſpect,
Your moſt obedient, humble ſervant,
Barrackpore, (Signed) JOHN MURRAY.
6th December, 1783.
(A true copy.)
JOHN MURRAY.

The Honourable Warren Haſtings, Eſq. &c. &c. &c.

(ENCLOSURE, N° 19.)

G. O. iſſued by the Commander in Chief, Fort William, 10th January, 1784.

Minutes of Council, 6th January, 1784.

Agreed, That the rank, pay, batta, and allowances of Lieutenant Colonel be granted to Mr. Andrew Williams, Surgeon Major of the firſt brigade, from the day, in conſi-

 deration

Digitized by Google

deration of his having ſerved the Company faithfully as Surgeon Major for twenty years, at which time his well-grounded hopes and expectations of ſucceeding to the office of Surgeon General are cut off by the return of Mr. Ellis to fill that ſtation, and who may again be ſucceeded by Mr. Campbell, and in conſequence of the recommendation of the Commander in Chief, and of the late Surgeon General.

A true copy.

W. ATKINSON,

Deputy Commiſſary General.

(ENCLOSURE, Nº 20.)

To John Murray, Eſquire, Commiſſary General in Bengal.

SIR,

I am directed by the right honourable the Preſident and Select Committee to forward to you, in conformity to your deſire, a ſtatement of pay and batta to laſcars; the medium rates of ſtores uſually charged at Fort St. George; the medium price of civil ſtores; and the Acting Commiſſary-general's remarks on your letter; and a letter from the Military Paymaſter General, encloſing two ſtatements of pay and batta to the military and artificers on this eſtabliſhment.

I am farther directed by the Committee to aſſure you, that they feel a very particular ſatisfaction in complying with your wiſhes, which they are very ſenſible have been uniformly directed towards the promotion of the Company's intereſts and benefit.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your moſt obedient ſervant,

Fort St. George, 7th Jan. 1784. (Signed) W. G. WASEY, Acting Secretary.

A true copy.

W. ATKINSON,

Deputy Commiſſary General.

(ENCLOSURE,

(ENCLOSURE, Nº 21.)

Present State of the Accounts of the Army on the Bengal Establishment, shewing the last Disbursements received in the Commissary-General's Office, the last audited, and those that remain for Audit, 8th February, 1784.

Disbursements.	Last received in this Office, and when.		Last audited.	Remarks.
Garrisons and artillery	October 1783	24th December 1783	October 1783	
1st brigade	September 1783	Do.	September 1783	
2d do.	Do.	Do.	Do.	
3d do.	October 1783	8th January 1784	October 1783	
Bombay detachment	August 1782	11th September 1783	August 1782	
Madras detachment	June 1782	10th July 1783	June 1782	
Garrison of Chunar	August 1783	10th October 1783	August 1783	
Do. Buxar	July 1783	27th December 1783	} July 1783	
Patna magazine	Do.	Do.	} July 1783	
Rangurr	September 1783	28th October 1783	September 1783	
Islamabad	October 1783	24th December 1783	October 1783	
Moraudbaug	Do.	Do.	Do.	
Patna	March 1783	23d August 1783	March 1783	
Dacca	October 1783	24th December 1783	October 1783	
Burdwan	Do.	Do.	Do.	
Dinagepore	September 1783	Do.	September 1783	
Paymaster General	Do.	21st November 1783	Do.	
Cavalry corps	May 1783	17th July 1783	May 1783	
Futty-Ghurr detachment	September 1783	24th December 1783	September 1783	
Blair's do.	August 1783	10th October 1783	August 1783	
Boglepore militia	October 1783	24th December 1783	October 1783	
Do. invalid sepoys	July 1783	10th October 1783	——	Not to be audited in this office.
Agent for boats	May 1783	23d August 1783	——	Vide remark on the last state of the accounts, dated 9th December. The accounts for June were recalled from this office by the Paymaster General.

W. ATKINSON,
Deputy Commissary General.

E 4

(ENCLOSURE, N° 22.)

The Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Council.

Gentlemen,

I am sorry your commands, signified in the Assistant Secretary's letter to me of the 24th March last, received this day, forbidding, in consequence of orders from the Court of Directors, my passing any bills of Major Fairfax "for "pay and allowances during his absence from this Presi-"dency," have come too late, that officer's pay, &c. having been already regularly passed when presented, in obedience to former orders; I will, however, take care that nothing shall henceforward be passed for that officer during his absence.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your most obedient, humble servant,
(Signed) JOHN MURRAY,
Commissary General.

Commy General's Office,
24th June, 1783.

A true copy.
W. Atkinson,
Deputy Commissary General.

(ENCLOSURE, N° 23.)

The Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Council.

Gentlemen,

By the minutes of Council of the 25th August last, it was "agreed that Mr. John Wombwell be, in conformity "to the orders of the honourable the Court of Directors, "appointed Paymaster General of all the Company's troops "serving beyond the Carramnassa;" but as these orders express nothing relative to his allowances, I beg, if the Court of Directors have specified the expence to be incurred by this new appointment, that you will order the necessary communication to be made to me; and if they have not, permit me to request that you will be pleased to fix the establishment to be passed on the military accounts for that office.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your most obedient, humble servant,
(Signed) JOHN MURRAY,
Commissary General.

Commy General's Office,
18th October, 1783.

A true copy.
W. Atkinson,
Deputy Commissary General.

(ENCLO-

Digitized by Google

(ENCLOSURE, N° 24.)

The Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, &c. &c. General Department.

Gentlemen,

By your orders of the 29th of September, Captain Archibald Hook was appointed to the command of Beedgey Ghur; but no allowances being specified as annexed to that command, I beg you will be pleased to inform me whether any, and what, shall be admitted in auditing the accounts; and that you will also determine what batta is to be allowed to the officers and sepoys in that garrison.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your most obedient, humble servant,
(Signed) JOHN MURRAY,
Commissary General.

Commy General's Office,
11th Nov. 1783.

(ENCLOSURE, N° 25.)

To Captain John Murray, Commissary General.

SIR,

I am directed by the honourable the Governor General and Council to transmit the accompanying extract of a general letter, dated 28th August, 1782, which they have received from the honourable Court of Directors, and to forbid your passing any bills of Major Fairfax for pay and allowances during his absence from this Presidency.

I am, Sir,
Your most obedient, humble servant,
(Signed) WILLIAM BRUERE,
Assistant Secretary.

Fort William,
24th March, 1783.

Extract of a General Letter from the Honourable the Court of Directors, dated 28th August, 1782.

Par. 39. "Having examined your proceedings relative to "the appointment of Major Fairfax, with his pay and "allowances, to have charge of the Governor general's "narrative of his transactions at Benares, we are of opi-"nion that the said appointment was not only unprece-"dented, but highly improper and unnecessary, and ut-"terly inconsistent with the œconomy which ought to be "observed in the management of the Company's affairs: "we are the more astonished at this appointment, as "Major Fairfax has candidly acknowledged to us, that the "state of his health obliged him to return to England at "the

" the time he did; and that he should have come home the
" preceding season, had not the situation of public affairs
" induced him to stay. Should you, however, be of opi-
" nion that he is entitled to any compensation on this ac-
" count, the same is to be given by yourselves, as we will
" never consent to the Company being put to the smallest
" expence by such an unjustifiable transaction; and hereby
" positively direct, that no such appointment be made in
" future, on any pretence whatsoever."

A true extract.

(Signed) WILLIAM BRUERE,
Assistant Secretary.

Respecting Mr. Johnson's bullock contract, see the Censures of the Directors, Vol. I. page 46.

See also Mr. Templar's conduct, ibid. p. 35.

Capt. Ford's contract, ibid. p. 43 *and* 62.

Master-Attendant's contract, ibid. p. 45 *and* 62.

Belli's contract, ibid. p. 49.

Extra allowance to Sir Eyre Coote, ibid. p. 60.

Mr. Croftes' letter, Vol. II. p. 243, *and Appendix to the Fifth Report of the Select Committee, Numbers* 8 *and* 9.

Extra allowance to Sir John Day, see Censures of the Directors, Vol. I. p. 60.

Residency of Goa, ibid. 9.

LETTER

Digitized by Google

LETTER FROM THE GANGES.

To the Honourable Court of Directors of the Honourable United East-India Company.

On the River Ganges. 21st Feb. 1785.

Honourable Sirs,

HAVING had occasion to disburse from my own cash many sums, for services which, though required to enable me to execute the duties of my station, I have hitherto omitted to enter in my public accounts, and my own fortune being unequal to so heavy a charge, I have resolved to reimburse myself in a mode the most suitable to the situation your affairs, by charging the same on my Durbar accounts of the present year, and crediting them by a sum privately received, and appropriated to your service in the same manner with other sums received on account of the honourable Company, and already carried to their account.

The particulars of these disbursements are contained in the enclosed accounts, N° 1, 2, 3, and 4, of which N° 5 is the abstract.

I shall subjoin a brief explanation of each.

The sum of the account N° 1 is the difference between the allowance of 300 rupees a month, which was the customary pay of the Governor's military Secretary, and that which I allowed to Lieutenant-colonel Ironside during the time that he acted in that capacity, on account of his superior rank. It was referred to your honourable Court in one of the general letters of the year 1773 or 4; but I presume that it was overlooked, in the pressure of other more important matters which at that time occupied your attention.

N° 2, and 3, are explained in the accounts themselves.

N° 4 consists of three several kinds of charges, which I confess to have been unauthorised, but which I humbly conceive neither to be of a private nature, nor unworthy subjects of the bounty of a great and rising state.—The first is inconsiderable, consisting chiefly in the subsistence of the Pundits, who were assembled in Calcutta, and employed during two years in compiling the code of Hindoo laws for your use. The sum allotted to them was, as I recollect, one rupee per diem; a larger recompence was offered, but refused; nor would they receive this, but for their daily support: they had indeed the promise of some public endowments for their colleges, which yet remain unperformed.

formed.—The second is the amount of sundry monthly salaries paid to some of the most learned professors of the Mahomedan law, for translating, from the Arabic into the Persian tongue, a compendium of their law, called The Hedaya, which is held in high estimation, and part of a more voluminous work, which I could not prosecute. Your honourable Court is in possession of a part of the English version of Hedaya, made by Mr. James Anderson, and a subsequent part of the same work has been lately translated by Mr. Hamilton. These gentlemen are both engaged in the completion of it, and are both eminently qualified for it. It would exceed the due bounds of this letter, to expatiate on the utility of this work; yet I may be allowed to vindicate the expence of it by one summary argument, which is, that while the Mahomedan law is allowed to be the standard of the criminal jurisprudence of your dominion, under the control and inspection of your English servants, it seems indispensably necessary that the Judges of the Courts should have a more familiar guide for their proceedings than the books of the Arabic tongue, of which few have opportunities of attaining a competent knowledge; and as necessary that your servants should possess the means of consulting the principles on which those judgements are founded, which, in their ultimate resort, and in extraordinary cases, may fall within their immediate cognizance, and of the laws of which they are the protectors.—The third charge, is that of an academy, instituted for the study of the different branches of the sciences taught in the Mahomedan schools. After a trial of about two years, finding that it was likely to answer the end of its institution, I recommended to the Board, and obtained their consent, to pass the subsequent expence of the establishment to the account of the Company, and to erect a building for the purpose at my own immediate cost, but for a Company's interest note granted me for the reimbursement of it. It is almost the only complete establishment of the kind now existing in India, although they were once in universal use, and the decayed remains of these schools are yet to be seen in every capital town or city of Hindostan and Decan. It has contributed to extend the credit of the English name, and to soften the prejudices excited by the rapid growth of the British dominion; and it is a seminary of the most useful members of society.

I humbly submit the propriety of carrying these expences to your account, by the consideration, that it was not possible for me to have been influenced, in incurring them, by any purpose of my own interest. Something, perhaps, may be attributed to the impulse of pride, in the share which I might hope to derive of a public benefaction; but certainly

certainly not to vanity or oftentation, fince I believe it to be generally conceived, that the whole expence, of which the greateft part is yet my own, has been already defrayed from the treafury of the Company.

I will candidly confefs, that when I firft engaged, both in this and the preceding expence, I had no intention of carrying it to the account of the Company. Improvident for myfelf, zealous for the honour of my country, and the credit and intereft of my employers, I feldom permitted my profpects of futurity to enter into the view of my private concerns. In the undifturbed exercife of the faculties which appertained to the active feafon of my life, I confined all my regards to my public character, and reckoned on a fund of years to come for its duration. The infirmities of life have fince fucceeded, and I have lately received more than one fevere warning to retire from a fcene to which my bodily ftrength is no longer equal, and threatens me with a correfponding decay in whatever powers of mind I once poffeffed, to difcharge the laborious duties and hard viciffitudes of my ftation. With this change in my condition, I am compelled to depart from that liberal plan which I originally adopted, and to claim from your juftice, for you have forbid me to appeal to your generofity, the difcharge of a debt which I can, with the moft fcrupulous integrity, aver to be juftly my due, and which I cannot fuftain.

If it fhould be objected, that the allowance of thefe demands would furnifh a precedent for others of the like kind, I have to remark, that in their whole amount they are but the aggregate of a contingent account of twelve years; and if it were to become the practice of thofe who have paffed their prime of life in your fervice, and filled, as I have filled it, the firft office of your dominion, to glean from their paft accounts all the articles of expence which their inaccuracy or indifference hath overlooked, your interefts would fuffer infinitely lefs by the precedent, than by a fingle example of a life fpent in the accumulation of crores for your benefit, and doomed in its clofe to fuffer the extremity of private want, and to fink in obfcurity.

I have thought it proper to complete the prefent fubject, by the addition of a charge which I intended to have fubmitted regularly to the Board; but which, if divided at this time from the others, might have admitted an unfair conftruction. It is in the account N° 6, and confifts of charges incurred for boats and budgerows provided by me, for my own ufe, on fuch public occafions as require my departure from the prefidency on extraordinary fervice.

My predeceſſors have always had an eſtabliſhment of this kind provided for them, and my ſucceſſor will have a proviſion devolve to him, ſuperior in convenience and in elegance to any that I have yet ſeen, and furniſhed with a coſt which would not be credited by thoſe who have ſeen the ſubjects of it.

I have the honour to be, with the greateſt reſpect,

Honourable Sirs,

Your moſt obedient and
moſt faithful ſervant,

WARREN HASTINGS.

Abſtract of various Charges diſburſed by the Governor General, from 13th April 1772 to 1ſt January 1784, for the Service of the Honourable Company, not before carried to their Account.

An account of the ſums diſburſed by the Governor General, for the ſalary of Lieutenant-colonel Gilbert Ironſide, during the period in which he acted as military Secretary — —	8,511	7	6
An account of charges diſburſed in the office of the Governor General, from 1ſt September 1772 to 1ſt January 1784	1,49,870	11	9
An account of ſums diſburſed by the Governor General, for the hire of houſes occupied by his Aids-de-camp, from 1ſt December 1775 to 1ſt January 1784	33,323	8	8
An account of ſums diſburſed by the Governor General, for the Diet and other charges of Pundits, employed in compiling the code of Hindoo laws—for the ſalaries of perſons employed in tranſlating books of the Mahomedan law, and other charges incidental to the ſame—and for the wages and other expences of the Madriſſa or Mahomedan academy	87,357	11	9
An account of ſums diſburſed for Budgerows and boats, for the Governor General's uſe — — —	59,156	5	9
Current rupees —	3,38,219	13	5

Fort William,
the 31ſt Dec. 1783.

Errors excepted.

(Signed) WM. LARKINS,
Acting Atty. for the
Hon. W. Haſtings, Eſq.

Digitized by Google

Extract

Extract of General Letter to Bengal, dated 16th March 1784.

Para. 47. We have confidered the letters from the Governor General, of the 20th January, 22d May, and 16th December 1782, relative to prefents, together with the account which accompanied the letter of the 22d May. Although it is not our intention to exprefs any doubt of the integrity of our Governor General, on the contrary, after having received the prefents, we cannot avoid expreffing our approbation of his conduct, in bringing them to the credit of the Company, yet we muft confefs the ftatement of thofe tranfactions appears to us in many parts fo unintelligible that we feel ourfelves under the neceffity of calling on the Governor General for an explanation, agreeable to his promife voluntarily made to us. We therefore defire to be informed of the different periods when each fum was received, and what were the Governor General's motives for withholding the feveral receipts from the knowledge of the Council, or of the Court of Directors; and what were his reafons for taking bonds for part of thefe fums, and for paying other fums into the treafury, as depofits on his own account.

MONEY PRIVATELY RECEIVED.

William Devaynes, Efquire, Chairman of the Honourable the Court of Directors.

S I R,

The honourable Court of Directors, in their general letter to Bengal, by the Surprize, dated the 16th March 1784, were pleafed to exprefs their defire that I fhould inform them of the periods when each fum of the prefents, mentioned in my addrefs of the 22d May 1782, was received, what were my motives for withholding the feveral receipts from the knowledge of the Council, or of the Court of Directors, and what were my reafons for taking bonds for part of thefe fums, and for paying other fums into the treafury as depofits on my own account.

I have been kindly apprized, that the information required as above is yet expected from me. I hope that the circumftances of my paft fituation, when confidered, will plead my excufe for having thus long withheld it. The fact is, that I was not at the Prefidency when the Surprize arrived; and when I returned to it, my time and attention were fo entirely engroffed, to the day of my final departure

ture from it, by a variety of other more important occupations, of which, Sir, I may safely appeal to your testimony, grounded on the large portion contributed by myself of the volumes which compose our consultations of that period, that the submission which my respect would have enjoined me to pay to the command imposed on me, was lost to my recollection, perhaps from the stronger impression, which the first and distant perusal of it had left on my mind, that it was rather intended as a reprehension for something which had given offence in my report of the original transaction, than as expressive of any want of a farther elucidation of it.

I will now endeavour to reply to the different questions which have been stated to me, in as explicit a manner as I am able. To such information as I can give, the honourable Court is fully entitled, and where that shall prove defective, I will point out the easy means by which it may be rendered more complete.

First, I believe I can affirm with certainty, that the several sums mentioned in the accounts transmitted with my letter above mentioned, were received at, or within a very few days of the dates which are prefixed to them in the account; but as this contains only the gross sums, and each cf these was received in different payments, though at no great distance of time, I cannot therefore assign a greater degree of accuracy to the account. Perhaps the honourable Court will judge this sufficient for any purpose to which their inquiry was directed; but if it should not be so, I will beg leave to refer, for a more minute information, and for the means of making any investigation which they may think it proper to direct, respecting the particulars of this transaction, to Mr. Larkins, your Accountant General, who was privy to every process of it, and possesses, as I believe, the original paper, which contained the only account that I ever kept of it. In this each receipt was, as I recollect, specifically inserted, with the name of the person by whom it was made; and I shall write to him, to desire that he will furnish you with the paper itself, if it is still in being, and in his hands, or with whatever he can distinctly recollect concerning it.

For my motives for withholding the several receipts from the knowledge of the Council, or of the Court of Directors, and for taking bonds for part of these sums, and paying others into the treasury as deposits on my own account, I have generally accounted in my letter to the honourable the Court of Directors of the 22d May 1782; namely, that "I either chose to conceal the first receipts from

"public

"public curiosity, by receiving bonds for the amount, or "possibly acted without any studied design, which my "memory at that distance of time could verify; and that "I did not think it worth my care to observe the same "means with the rest." It will not be expected that I should be able to give a more correct explanation of my intentions, after a lapse of three years, having declared at the time, that many particulars had escaped my remembrance; neither shall I attempt to add more than the clearer affirmation of the facts implied in that Report of them, and such inferences as necessarily, or with a strong probability, follow them. I have said that the three first sums of the account were paid into the Company's treasury without passing through my hands: The second of these was forced into notice by its destination and application to the expence of a detachment, which was formed and employed against Madéjee Scindia, under the command of Lieutenant-colonel Carnac, as I particularly apprised the Court of Directors, in my letter of the 29th December 1780: the other two were certainly not intended, when I received them, to be made public, though intended for public service, and actually applied to it. The exigencies of the Government were at that time my own, and every pressure upon it rested with its full weight upon my mind. Wherever I could find allowable means of relieving those wants, I eagerly seized them; but neither could it occur to me as necessary to state on our proceedings every little aid which I could thus procure, nor do I know how I could have stated it, without appearing to court favour by an ostentation which I disdained, nor without the chance of exciting the jealousy of my colleagues, by the constructive assertion of a separate and unparticipated merit, derived from the influence of my station, to which they might have laid an equal claim. I should have deemed it particularly dishonourable, to recive for my own use, money tendered by men of a certain class, from whom I had interdicted the receipt of presents to my inferiors, and bound them by oath not to receive them. I was therefore more than ordinarily cautious to avoid the suspicion of it, which would scarcely have failed to light upon me, had I suffered the money to be brought directly to my own house, or to that of any person known to be in trust for me; for these reasons I caused it to be transported immediately to the treasury. There, I well know, Sir, it could not be received without being passed to some credit, and this could only be done by entering it as a loan, or as a deposit; the first was the least liable to reflection, and therefore I had obviously recourse to it.

 Why

Digitized by Google

Why the second sum was entered as a deposit, I am utterly ignorant; possibly it was done without any special direction from me; possibly because it was the simplest mode of entry, and therefore preferred, as the transaction itself did not require concealment, having been already avowed.

Although I am firmly persuaded that these were my sentiments on the occasion, yet I will not affirm that they were. Though I feel their impression as the remains of a series of thoughts retained on my memory, I am not certain that they may not have been produced by subsequent reflection on the principal fact, combining with it the probable motives of it. Of this I am certain, that it was my design originally to have concealed the receipt of all the sums, except the second, even from the knowledge of the Court of Directors. They had answered my purpose of public utility, and I had almost totally dismissed them from my remembrance. But when fortune threw a sum in my way, of a magnitude which could not be concealed, and the peculiar delicacy of my situation, at the time in which I received it, made me more circumspect of appearances, I chose to apprise my employers of it; which I did hastily and generally; hastily, perhaps to prevent the vigilance and activity of secret calumny; and generally, because I knew not the exact amount of the sum of which I was in the receipt, but not in the full possession. I promised to acquaint them with the result as soon as I should be in possession of it, and in the performance of my promise I thought it consistent with it, to add to the account all the former appropriations of the same kind; my good genius then suggesting to me, with a spirit of caution, which might have spared me the trouble of this apology, had I universally attended to it, that if I had suppressed them, and they were afterwards known, I might be asked, what were my motives for withholding part of these receipts from the knowledge of the Court of Directors and informing them of the rest.

It being my wish to clear up every doubt upon this transaction, which either my own mind could suggest, or which may have been suggested by others, I beg leave to suppose another question, and to state the terms of it in my reply, by informing you, that the indorsement on the bonds was made about the period of my leaving the Presidency, in the middle of the year 1781, in order to guard against their becoming a claim on the Company, as part of my estate, in the event of my death occurring in the course of the service on which I was then enterting.

This, Sir, is the plain history of the transaction. I should be ashamed to request that you would communi-

cate

Digitized by Google

cate it to the honourable Court of Directors, whose time is too valuable for the intrusion of a subject so uninteresting, but that it is become a point of indispensable duty; I must therefore request the favour of you to lay it, at a convenient time, before them. In addressing it to you personally I yield to my own feelings of the respect which is due to them as a body, and to the assurances, which I derive from your experienced civilities, that you will kindly overlook the trouble imposed by it.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your very humble aad

Most obedient servant,

(Signed) WARREN HASTINGS.

Cheltenham,
11th July 1785.

 Copy

Digitized by Google

Copy of a Letter from Mr. Hastings to the Governor general and Council of Bengal, dated 17th January 1785, relative to his giving up and cancelling certain Bonds and Notes previous to his Resignation of the Government of Bengal.

Extract of Bengal General Consultations, 17th January 1785.

Read a letter from the Governor General as follows:.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I herewith beg leave to deliver up the three Company's interest notes, alluded to in the following extract of an account which accompanied my letter to the honourable Secret Committee of the honourable Court of Directors of 22d May 8782.

1780. Oct.—The following sums were paid into the treasury, and bonds granted for the same in the name of the Governor General, in whose possession the bonds remain, with a declaration upon oath, indorsed and signed by him, that he has no claim upon the Company for the amount either of principal or interest, no part of the latter having been received:

One bond, dated 1st Oct. 1780,			N° 1539	1,16,000	
One	—	2d	— N° 1540	1,16,000	
One	—	23d Nov.	N° 1354	1,74,000	
				———	4,06,000

And am to request that the honourable Board will be pleased to direct the Accountant General to transfer the same from my credit upon the honourable Company's interest books to the Company's, which will be a reduction of current rupees 5,42,003. 8. 9. in the amount of the principal and interest of the bonded debt of this Presidency on 31st ultimo.

I am also to request that the Accountant General may be directed to transfer the sum of Ct Rs 2,38,715. 2. 3. which now stands to my credit upon the deposit books, to the Company's; the same being the amount of the second article of the account before adverted to: which will consequently reduce the amount which now appears due from the general treasury for deposits.

In closing this address, I have but to assure the honourable Board, that the honourable Company have had credit for

for every other article and ſum contained in the account before mentioned.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) WARREN HASTINGS.

Fort William,
17th Jan. 1785.

The above-mentioned notes being cancelled;

Ordered, That notice thereof be given to the Accountant General, that he may carry the amount of them to the Company's credit.

Extract of General Letter from Bengal, dated 31ſt Jan. 1785.

Para. 9. We have received a letter from the Governor General, copy of which we tranſmit you a number in the packet; wherein he delivers up and cancels, in the preſence of the Board, the three Company's intereſt notes, alluded to in the extract of an account which accompanied his letter to your honourable Secret Committee, dated 22 May 1782; amounting in all, principal and intereſt, to current rupees 5,42,003. 8. 9. This ſum has, in conformity to the Governor General's deſire, been transferred from his credit upon your intereſt books, to the Company's; and thereby cauſes a reduction of the above ſum, in the amount of the bond debt of this Government.

10. The Governor General at the ſame time deſired, That the ſum of current rupees 2,38,715. 2. 3. which ſtood to his credit in the depoſit books, might be transferred to the Company's; being the amount of the ſecond article in the account above adverted to; which of courſe reduces the amount in that ſum of what appears due from the general treaſury on account depoſits.

For the Proceedings relative to Nundcomar, and the Petition of Phouſdar Houghly, ſee Bengal Narrative and Appendix;—all the other Documents on which this Charge is grounded, are to be ſeen in the Eleventh Report and Appendix of the Select Committee. See alſo the Cenſures of the Directors, Vol. 1. Page 2, and 3.

Digitized by Google

Copy of a Letter from Mr. Vansittart to the Court of Directors, dated 13th April 1781; respecting the Part he took in Mr. Hastings's Resignation.

To the Honourable Court of Directors of the East-India Company.

Honourable Sirs,

Having seen a pamphlet, entitled, *A Short Account of the Resignation of Warren Hastings, Esquire*, in which my name appears as a witness to the authority given to Mr. Macleane, which authority has been disavowed by Mr. Hastings; I think it necessary to state the part I took in this transaction, somewhat more at large than is recorded in your Proceedings of the 23d of October 1776. I will not, at this distance of time, undertake to charge my memory with the precise words of my testimony; but I can assert with confidence that it was to the following effect:— "That when Mr. Hastings gave his instructions to Mr. "Macleane, on his departure from Bengal in the beginning of 1765, (should be 75) he told him, he would "not continue a nominal Governor without any real "power, but was resolved to quit his station, unless, by "the removal of General Clavering, Mr. Francis, or Colonel Monson, or by the addition of some friend of his "own to the Council, the authority was given him as "well as the name; and that he authorized him to declare this resolution wherever he thought proper."

It is very true, as Mr. Hastings observes in his letter of the 15th of August 1777, that he did not *authorize* me *to give testimony*; but it is equally true, that he did not forbid my doing it: and therefore, when his agent (Mr. Macleane) requested it of me, I could not have been justified in refusing. Mr. Macleane wrote to me, to beg I would attend in Leadenhall Street for this purpose; I came from Berkshire in consequence; I had at that time a perfect recollection of the words Mr. Hastings had used, and I repeated them literally, without attempting to explain them. It rested with the Court of Directors to determine whether or not they amounted to authority for a resignation. If the original minutes of the testimony I gave to the Chairmain, Deputy Chairman, and Mr. Becher, can be found, and the instructions to Mr. Macleane, which Mr. Hastings says

says he has in his possession, are produced, the former will appear to be merely a confirmation of the latter.

With respect to the resignation, I understood from Mr. Macleane, that it was not intended Mr. Hastings should be obliged to quit the Government immediately on the receipt of the advices from the Court of Directors, but only that he should do it in time to return to England by some of the ships of that season; and it has been mentioned to me in letters from Bengal, that, although Mr. Hastings disapproved of the resignation, it was really his intention to have abided by it, till General Clavering's attempt to dispossess him by violence, and the subsequent occurrences, induced him to pursue a different conduct.

I am, with respect,
Honourable Sirs,
Your most obedient
humble servant,

(Signed) GEORGE VANSITTART.

Old Burlington Street,
13 April 1781.

Mr. Hastings's Resignation, see IXth Report of the Select Committee, and Appendix, and Censures of the Directors, Vol. I. p. 4, and 30.

CHARGE X.

Surgeon General's Contract, see Censures of the Directors, Vol. I. p. 39.

Mr. FRASER's POOLBUNDY CONTRACT.

Extract of Bengal Revenue Consultations, 13th February 1778.

The Governor General lays before the Board the following address and proposal from Mr. Fraser:

To the Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Council of Revenue.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

The pools and banks in the district of Burdwan being in many places broken down, and in general in great want of repair, I beg leave to submit to your honourable Board the following proposals for raising the new banks that may be required, and repairing the present pools.

I will engage to put them in a thorough state of repair before the ensuing rains, for the sum of one lack and twenty thousand Sicca rupees (1,20,000) to be paid to me by the provincial Council of Burdwan, at the following periods:

One half immediately on the contract being signed.
One quarter in the month of March.
And the remaining quarter in April.

Where the old pools have been broken down and washed away, or where the course of the rivers may have rendered new pools necessary, I will engage to raise them without incurring any farther charge to the honourable Company.

That if it shall be agreeable to the honourable Board to extend the contract beyond the present year, I will engage to keep the bunds in a state of thorough repair during the second year, for the sum of eighty thousand Sicca rupees (80,000) to be paid to me as follows:

One quarter in November 1778.
One d° - in December.
One d° - in January 1779.
One d° - in February.

I shall give such sufficient security as the honourable Board may require for the due performance of my engagements.

If these proposals should in general meet with your approbation, I shall be very ready to submit to such farther restrictions or regulations as you may think necessary for completing the work in the most substantial manner.

The

The season being already far advanced, I beg leave to request (in case my proposals are accepted) the favour of receiving, as soon as conveniently may be, your orders for beginning the work immediately; and that you will be pleased to direct the Council at Burdwan to give orders to the Superintendant of the Pools, and the proper officers in the country, to point out such banks as are first to be began upon, and to afford me every reasonable assistance.

Calcutta, 13th Feb. 1778. I am, with respect, &c. (Signed) A. FRASER.

* * * * * * * * * * * * *

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

In our letter of the 15th November, we addressed you on the subject of the poolbundy of this province, and transmitted to you copy of a letter from Mr. Dynely, together with a representation from Brijoo Kissore Roy, corroborating our representations of the necessity of not only a speedy, but a very substantial repair being made; we also informed you that Mr. Kinloch, the superintendant of Poolbundy repairs, was at that time directed to proceed into the purgunnahs, and to inspect the condition of the bunds, and to ascertain in the most correct manner he could, the expence which would necessarily be required for the repair of the present season. That gentleman, being now returned, has delivered to us a report of the condition in which he found the several bunds, and has accompanied it with an estimate of the expence which he deems requisite to be disbursed for the absolute defence of the province from the inundations which may happen in the course of the ensuing rainy season. We have the honour to enclose you a copy of his report and estimate, together with a translate of a farther representation made to us by Brijoo Kissore Roy on the subject. The information which Mr. Kinloch has given us, we are well persuaded is from a very accurate and diligent survey of the several bunds; and, from his report, we do not hesitate to say, that a speedy and substantial repair of the whole bunds of the province is a matter of the most serious attention; as, either by a delay in prosecuting this necessary work, or by its being performed in the superficial manner of the two last years, subjects the country *to inundations, which may cause a loss of half the revenue of these purgunnahs.* We are ourselves fully convinced of the high importance of this work, and of the necessity of its being executed in the most effectual manner, and deem ourselves bound in duty to represent it to you so forcibly, that your determination may be as speedy as possible.

Digitized by Google

The

The eſtimate which Mr. Kinloch has given to us may appear to you very high, comparatively with the charges of Poolbundy for the laſt two years; but as we have the fulleſt proofs of the ſum which was allowed for theſe years being *very inadequate to the extent of the works*, and equally well convinced that even that ſum has been either not applied to the work *at all*, or done ſo very injudiciouſly that the bunds are in no degree benefited by it, we cannot but be very earneſt in our requeſt, that the charge be admitted as ſtated by Mr. Kinloch, and that the moſt effectual reſtraints be put upon thoſe whom you ſhall be pleaſed to entruſt with the diſburſement of it, that the ſum be duly and faithfully applied for the purpoſes for which it is granted; and here we cannot but expreſs our worſt opinion of the fidelity of the darogahs who have been employed for the laſt two ſeaſons, and impute to their neglect the neceſſity to which Government is reduced of incurring ſo very heavy an expence, which however, if diſburſed as we have recommended, the charge will in future ſeaſons be greatly reduced, as after one thorough and effectual *repair, we conceive a ſmall annual expence will be ſufficient to keep the bunds up, and prevent their going to decay.*

We are, &c.

(Signed) ALEX. HIGGINSON,
WM. MARRIOTT
WM. PYE
SAML. CHARTERS,

Burdwan,
3d Feb. 1778.

* * * * * * * * *

Eſtimate of the Advances abſolutely neceſſary to be expended this Seaſon, for putting the Bunds of this Province in a thorough Repair.

Guallaboon	— —	1,033	8
Champanagony	— —	214	8
Baggah	— —	314	6
Havillah	— — —	2,109	—
Billegur	— —	4,313	7
Boorſut	— new pools —	14,095	—
Billiah	d° —	24,531	—
Mundel Gaut	d° —	37,305	—
Chuttuah	— —	11,103	—
Burdah	— new pools —	7,408	—
Chanderconnah	— —	1,976	—
Jahanabad	— —	1,920	—
Byrah	— — —	3,400	—
Chomuah	— —	4,102	—

Hary

Digitized by Google

Hary Paul	——	—	73 —
Arſah	— —	—	503 —
Monurſley	——	—	634 —
Hanihattee	—	—	161 —
Turruff Guttaut — d°		—	4,200 —
	Total Sa Rs	—	1,19,405 13

Burdwan, 1ſt Feb. 1778.

A true copy. E. E.

(Signed) WM. FARQUHARSON,
Acting Secretary.

(Signed) JOHN KINLOCH,
Supert. Poolbundy Repairs.

* * * * * * * * *

Governor General.—I move that the offers made by Mr. Fraſer be accepted; and that a contract be granted him for keeping the poolbundy of Burdwan in repair, on the terms ſpecified by him, for the preſent year, and the next enſuing; and that the Commiſſioner of Law Suits be directed to cauſe the proper inſtruments to be prepared in the legal form, being furniſhed with the above propoſal, and ſuch other copies of the records of this department, as may be requiſite to complete them.

Mr. Francis.—The managers on the part of the Rajah undertook to keep the pools in repair for the ſum of 25,000 rupees per annum. If the work was not properly attended to, and performed by them, it was the duty of the Burdwan Council to inform us of ſuch neglect, at the periods when it might have been in our power to have made timely proviſions againſt the conſequences of it. They ought to have ſent out aumeens, from time to time, to inſpect the ſtate of the bunds, and report it to them. Their Superintendant, Mr. Kinloch, ſhould at leaſt not have waited till the rains of the ſecond year were over, before he made his report of the ſtate of the bunds. Mr. Thomſon, in 1775, propoſed to perform this work for 60,000 rupees per annum, for nine years; the preſent propoſal is for a lack and twenty thouſand, for the 1ſt year, and 80,000 for the 2d. Admitting that the bunds may have ſuffered ſome extraordinary damages in the laſt year, ſtill the difference between this and the other propoſal is ſo exorbitant, that I cannot think it right to agree to it, eſpecially as there is no eſtimate of particulars before us to guide the judgement of the Board. In my opinion, the repairs of the Poolbundy ſhould be committed to the Rajah, or to the perſon who has the management

Digitized by Google

nagement of the collections, who might, with great eafe, be obliged to perform his engagements ftrictly, if the Burdwan Council attended to the bufinefs themfelves, or obliged their Superintendant to make conftant reports to them of the ftate and progrefs of the work.

Governor General.—It fuited the temper of the feafon in which the Rajah made his propofals to make an offer for repairing the poolbundy, fo much below the fum which had ever been expended in any one year for that fervice, as to make all prior difburfements appear in a fufpected light by the contraft. It is notorious, and it was well known at the time, to every one in the leaft converfant in this bufinefs, that it was impoffible to have kept the pools and dykes of that extenfive country in repair for fo fmall an annual fum as 25,000 rupees; and in effect, the progrefs that could have been made in the work, by fo trifling an expence, would have been fo fmall, that the Rajah's officers appear to have thought it not worth their while to lay out any money at all upon the work; we have authentic evidence of its having been totally neglected, yet I am of opinion that a much fmaller fum would have then fufficed than that which is now propofed for the repairs of the prefent year, fince this is an accumulating charge, which, from the nature of it, will annually grow upon fuch year's neglect. The breach which 50 rupees might have mended when it was firft difcovered, will, after the clofe of one rainy feafon, and the continued paffage of an impetuous tide through it, require an expence of more than 100 rupees. Mr. Thompfon's propofals including a long term of nine years, for the equal yearly fum of 60,000, which I think greatly exceeds the proportionate amount of the prefent propofals, becaufe thefe are to effect a complete repair, which can hardly be concluded in one feafon, and the fubfequent expence will be but trifling. As I mean to confine my own obfervations to the queftion, I muft beg leave to decline offering my remarks upon the conduct of the Council of Burdwan, in fuffering (if they have fuffered) the bunds to run into decay through their neglect or inattention.

Mr. Wheler.—As neither Mr. Frafer's fcheme, nor the eftimate formed by the fuperintendant at Burdwan, are fufficiently explanatory for me to form a judgement on the queftion, I beg leave to decline giving any.

Mr. Barwell.—I agree to the acceptance of Mr. Frafer's propofals, judging it better to limit the expence by a contract, than to leave the difburfements to be made by eftimate; as I fcarcely know of any one inftance of eftimates having been delivered, and the expence kept within them.

Refolved,

Digitized by Google

Resolved, That Mr. Fraser's proposals for keeping in repair the Poolbundy of Burdwan be accepted for this year, and the next ensuing; and that the Commissioner of Law Suits be directed to cause the proper instruments to be prepared in legal form.

Extract of Bengal Revenue Consultations, 29th December, 1778.

Read the following letter from Mr. Fraser, the Contractor for the repairs of the pools in Burdwan:

To the Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Council of Revenue.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

Having completed the first year of the contract which I entered into for repairing and upholding the pools and banks erected for the defence of the Burdwan province, I beg leave to lay before the Board an account of the state of Poolbundy, and to submit, with the observations and proposals I have to make, what appears necessary for supporting these important works in future.

The Deig Bund, as it stands recorded upon the proceedings of the Burdwan Council, comprehends a tract of pools in length nearly 500 miles, which, from having been greatly neglected for some years, was in so ruinous a state when I commenced my engagements, that in the pools of Burdah alone, the first work I took in hand, I had 578 breaches to fill up, one half of them of considerable extent; and although in the pools of the other purgunnahs there were not so many breaches, yet they were so much broken down by cattle, I could not on any terms whatever prevail upon any one of my agents to come under articles of agreement for finishing the repairs of their respective stations within a limited time; so much did they despair, at the advanced season of the year when the work was begun, of being able to accomplish what was necessary to be done before the settling in the rains.

Under the discouraging circumstances, I have only to resolve on sparing no expence, or leaving untried any means which could possibly contribute to forward the undertaking I had engaged to perform; which having accordingly put in execution, I was, in consequence, fortunate enough to follow such measures as in the end happily effected what, at the beginning, I had so little prospect of fulfilling in the short time given me for that purpose.

Independent of the state in which I found the pools, I have on the following accounts been put to very great and unexpected charges, which do not commonly happen, by

having

Digitized by Google

having a ſecond repair to give to many of the pools, particularly the ſandy ones, the work of the firſt repair having been waſhed away by the uncommon and unremitting violence of the rains, which continued for many days at their firſt ſetting in; together with filling up the new breaches made by extraordinary torrents of water, which at that time came down from the hills, and overflowed a great part of the province; and in ſecuring the foundation of the principal pools from being ſapped by this collected body of water, which could in no other way be effected than by uſing trees, with great quantities of bamboos, mats, ſtraw, and other materials, to prevent the new earth thrown in from being carried away, all of them additional charges upon the eſtimate I formed at giving in my propoſals, and an expence which would not have been incurred, had the rains ſet in, as they generally do, with a moderation which gives time for their gradually acting upon and ſettling the new earth and ſand—the only chance there is of a work of this nature, executed in the dry ſeaſon, becoming ſufficiently ſtrong to reſiſt the force of currents, or to bear the weight of great bodies of water.

Beſides the inſufficient manner in which the pools have of late years been repaired, the ancient practice of erecting dobunds, a neceſſary ſecurity againſt inundation, on the failure of the old pools, has been altogether neglected, and the rivers have now in moſt parts approached ſo near the old pools, that notwithſtanding they have been this year at a great expence repaired in ſuch manner as will, with the farther repairs to be given the enſuing ſeaſon, ſecure them for two, or perhaps three years longer, from falling into the rivers, yet it will be impoſſible to preſerve them long from that fate; and unleſs dobunds, where neceſſary to ſupply the place of the old pools as they fail, are ready by the time there will be occaſion for them, it will be impracticable to keep ſome of the purgunnahs from being overflowed in the rainy ſeaſons; and of conſequence, as the cultivation of the ſouthern purgunnahs is wholly obtained by means of the pools, the crops in many places will be entirely loſt, and the Company thereby deprived of a great part of their revenue.

In order therefore that dobunds may be ready by the time they will be wanted, their foundations ought to be laid immediately, and additional work raiſed upon that baſis the next and following years, until they are completely finiſhed, becauſe new-raiſed earth taking a long time to ſettle, ſuch bunds do not, in many years, become ſufficiently ſtrong to withſtand the force which currents gather in their rapid progreſs from the hilly countries. If, on the contrary, theſe bunds of protection are not built before the old pools fail,

Digitized by Google

fail, they must then be raised with such expensive materials (to render them, if possible, of immediate use) that the charge of erecting them will be enormous, without any degree of certainty that they will answer the purpose for which they are erected.

The efficacy of the proposed precaution is therefore so obvious, that it is almost necessary to observe how much it would be the interest of the Company to grant to every contractor, who engages to keep the pools in thorough repair, an annual allowance, to be by him appropriated for the sole purpose of building dobunds, a measure which the sooner it is adopted, the more will the charge of that work, in the end, be diminished.

It is well known that in the repairs of the pools this year, accomplished to the general satisfaction of the farmers, every indulgence and assistance has been afforded on my part, which the ryots stood in need of, for promoting the different branches of cultivation; and as incontestible proof of the sufficiency of the repairs, there is not an instance of the failure of, or a breach being made in, any one of the pools during the last currents, and breaking up of the rains; but though they have thus stood, as the bunds are the only roads for cattle, they are subject to perpetual injuries from them, and have in fact been much injured by them, as well as weakened by the almost unheard-of torrents occasioned by the last rainy season.

In recompence of the unexpected charges I have been put to, and of the satisfactory conclusion of my first year's engagement, I have to solicit, and I hope the Board will be pleased to grant me, a prolongation of my contract for three years, in addition to my present term, and that I may be allowed such occasional advances, on account of the dobunds, as I may apply for to the Council at Burdwan, so that each advance shall not exceed the sum of five thousand rupees; and as I do not wish to make this a part of my contract, or to gain by it, I will, at the end of each year, or when the dobunds shall be completed, deliver in to the Board an exact and faithful account of the monies expended on the dobunds, verified on oath; for I look only for profit from my contract.

I am, &c.
(Signed) ARCHIBALD FRASER.

Governor General. — As I have every reason to believe that this mode of providing for the repairs of the pools or dykes in the zemindary of Burdwan will prove, in the end, of the greatest utility to that branch of the revenue — that Mr. Fraser has conducted himself with strict fidelity and integrity in the execution of it — and as I know, from repeated

peated experience, that a business of this kind always suffers very materially by being frequently shifted into new hands, I recommend and move that Mr. Fraser's contract be prolonged for three years, on the present terms, that is to say, 80,000 rupees per annum; and, for the reasons assigned in his letter, that he be allowed to make dobunds, or new embankments, in support of the old ones, where we shall judge them necessary, at the charge of Government, without any additional profit to himself; and his accounts of this charge to be verified on oath, as he himself has proposed.

Mr. Wheler.—I shall assent to the continuation of the contract, and to the additional proposition for making dobunds, although I think the term much too long. I am likewise of opinion that Mr. Fraser should be obliged to report to the Board the work which he shall annually perform, which Report should be confirmed by an actual survey of the said work, made either by the order of this Board, or of the Revenue Council at Burdwan.

Mr. Francis.—I adhere to the opinion which I have already given on this subject, on the 13th of February last.

Mr. Barwell.—I agree to the prolongation of Mr. Fraser's contract, and to the additional proposition for making dobunds; and with Mr. Wheler's opinion as to a regular annual report of the state and improvement of the bunds: this falling properly within the office of Inspector of the Pools, Mr. Kinloch, under the Burdwan Council, a general order should be issued, enjoining the Inspector to lay before the Provincial Council an account of the repairs or state of the pools regularly, on the commencement of the rains, that is on the 15th of June.

Governor General.—I agree to the propositions contained in Mr. Wheler's and Mr. Barwell's minutes, and in the terms stated by Mr. Barwell.

Resolved, That the contract of Mr. Fraser, for keeping in repair the pools and banks of the province of Burdwan, be prolonged for three years, on the present terms, that is to say, at eighty thousand rupees per annum.

Resolved farther, That Mr. Fraser be permitted to make dobunds where he shall judge them necessary, at the charge of Government, without any additional profit to himself, and that his accounts of this charge be verified on oath.

Extract of Bengal Revenue Consultations, 16th February, 1779.

The contract of Mr. Fraser, for keeping in repair the pools and banks of the province of Burdwan having been re-drawn, in consequence of the clauses ordered to be added to

Digitized by Google

to it on 29th December laſt, is now laid before the Board, and executed.

Mr. Francis.—I ſign the contract, in compliance with the formal reſolution of the Board, but without departing from the opinion I have repeatedly expreſſed of the inefficacy of ſuch inſtruments, or admitting that I am perſonally bound by my ſignature to make good the terms therein ſpecified; conſidering that the grant contained in this, and ſome other contracts lately given, does not commence till after a time at which the preſent Government will ceaſe to exiſt.

CHARGE XII.

Opium Contract, ſee Ninth Report of the Select Committee, with the Appendix; alſo Cenſures of the Directors, Vol. I. page 67.

Digitized by Google

Extract of Fort St. George Select Consultations, 19th February 1781.

The Secretary, Mr. Sulivan, representing that urgent business requires his attendance in Bengal, and requesting the permission of the Committee to proceed thither, it is accordingly granted him.

Extract of Narrative of the Proceedings of the Select Committee of Fort St. George, from the 17th February 1781 *to the 22d June* 1781.

Para. 35. In the month of February last Mr. Richard Joseph Sulivan, Secretary to the Select Committee, applied for leave to proceed to Calcutta on his private affairs, which was granted.—Mr. Oakes was shortly afterwards appointed Secretary during his absence.—About the end of April the President received a letter from Mr. Sulivan, referring him to dispatches from the Governor General and Council for the particulars of the business which had been concluded at Calcutta with respect to the Carnatic, and which would likewise inform him of the appointment the Governor General had conferred upon him, of Resident at the Durbar of the Nabob; that this would of course make it necessary for him to vacate the Secretaryship, which he had authorized Mr. Oakely to do in his name.

36. The Committee were of opinion that Mr. Sulivan had acted contrary to that respect and attention which were due to them, in accepting of an employment on another establishment before he had received their approbation, and his mode of notifying it was highly improper; but being willing to suppose he had acted rather from inadvertency than intentional disrespect, and having received no other intimation as to the nature of his appointment, they deferred the discussion of the subject until he should arrive, resolving then to call on him to justify his conduct. Mr. Sulivan's resignation of the Secretaryship was accepted, and Mr. Oakes was confirmed in the office of Secretaryship to the Select Committee.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, 29th March 1781.

The Governor General reports, that Syed Assam Cawn Behadore, dewan of the Nabob Wallaujaw, accompanied by Mr. Richard Joseph Sulivan, arrived here some days ago with full powers and instructions to ratify certain articles of agreement which the Nabob is desirous should be firmly established between this Government and the Carnatic.

The

Digitized by Google

The following is a translation of his credentials, the original having been produced to the Board:

His Highness the Nabob Wallaujaw Ummer ul Hind, Omdat ul Mulk, Asuffred Dowlah Unwarud deen Cawn Behauder, Zuffeer Jung, Sepoy Salar Subahdar of the Carnatic;

To Richard Joseph Sulivan, Esquire, and Syed Ausum Cawn Behauder Mobauruz Jung, &c.

Reposing especial trust and confidence in your fidelity, integrity, and abilities, we hereby constitute and appoint you, Richard Joseph Sulivan and Syed Assum Cawn, to be our Ministers and Plenipotentiaries Extraordinary at the Durbar of the mighty and exalted Governor General of India, Immaudeid Dowlah, Mr. Hastings, Behauder Jellaudert Jung; and we give you full power, by these presents, in our name, and on our behalf, to manage and conduct all our affairs, and to agree to and sign any and all treaty or treaties for our advantage, with as full force and effect as we ourselves could do if present, without prejudice to our sovereign rights, or to the rights of our country and family. And we empower you, when you are to return to our presence, to appoint a proper person to manage our affairs during your absence, under your instructions. In witness whereof we have hereunto affixed our great seal, in Madras, this 26th day of the Moon Suffer, in the year of the Hegiry 1195, corresponding to the 20th February 1781.

(The Nabob's signature) BIJSE.

A true copy. SYED AUSUM CAWN's signature.
A true copy. R. J. SULIVAN.

The Governor General has had frequent conferences with Syed Assam Cawn, on the subject of his master's demands; but as he conceived that a formal and a methodical enunciation of them would be in every respect necessary for the consideration of the Board, he desired Assum Cawn would state in a concise and particular manner the several heads under which the propositions should be arranged. Assam Cawn accordingly presented him, two days ago, with a paper of requisitions, and in the name of his master requested a reply, expressing the Board's resolution on each article, as expeditiously as possible, their object being of the utmost importance, not only to the future prosperity of his country, but also to the safety of the English possessions in the Carnatic, and to the relief of his numerous creditors, whose claims and necessities he represents as great and distressing.

Digitized by Google

The Governor General now delivers the paper of requisitions, which is read.

The Board, sensible of the heavy load of difficulties under which the Nabob Wallaujaw hath laboured for a considerable length of time, and being anxious that a permanent plan should be adopted for the future regulations of the affairs of the Carnatic, readily acquiesce in the requisition of Syed Assam Cawn, that distinct replies be given by the Board to each of the several propositions of the Nabob; and that the replies, if approved by the Dewan, should serve for the basis of an agreement between this Government and that of the Carnatic. Syed Assum Cawn having clearly understood and approved of all the replies of the Board with the above amendment, and literal translation of the same being given to him in the Persian language, he, on the part of his master, agrees to them in every particular; and requests that the following declaration may be affixed to them for his, and for the signature and seal of Mr. Richard Joseph Sulivan, whose name having been joined with Assum Cawn's in the credentials, is therefore necessary to the complete ratification of any agreement founded on them.

"We, Assam Cawn and Richard Joseph Sulivan, in virtue of full powers granted to us by the Nabob Wallaujaw, to negociate and conclude a treaty or agreement with the honourable the Governor General and Council of Bengal, for and on account of the future regulation and management of the affairs of the Carnatic, and in the name and on the behalf of the Nabob Wallaujaw afore-named, solemnly agree to all the conditions expressed in the preceding replies of the Governor General and Council to the annexed corresponding propositions, made by Syed Assum Cawn Behader, on the behalf of the Nabob Wallaujaw aforesaid; and do bind him the said Nabob Wallaujaw, and do declare him to be bound, to the performance of every thing required to be performed by him in the said replies, in the same manner, and as fully, as if he himself had been present at the execution of this deed, and had signed the same, regarding the same in the light of a treaty executed in the usual form. In witness whereof we have hereunto set our names and seals to this deed, and have caused it to be written on a paper, to which the Nabob Wallaujaw himself hath, with his own hand, affixed his seal in our presence, as a confirmation of his concurrence in whatsoever agreement should be written upon it by us, and of the sanction of his faith pledged for every obligation expressed and implied by it."

The Board being fully satisfied of the sufficiency of the powers with which Syed Assum Cawn Behauder and Mr. Richard Joseph Sulivan are invested on the part of the Nabob

Digitized by Google

bob Wallaujaw, and being anxious that speedy and effectual remedies should be applied to the disordered state of the affairs of the Carnatic, do deem it of essential moment, that the entire sanction of the controlling Government of India should be given to the agreement, and the more especially as in the letters which have been received from the Presidency of Fort St. George since the commencement of the late troubles in the Carnatic, they have repeatedly declared their total and absolute inability to obtain from the Carnatic the smallest supply of money for the maintenance of the war, or the support of their current expences.

The Governor General lays before the Board the following request, which hath been made to him by Syed Assam Cawn on the part of the Nabob:—His Highness the Nabob Wallau Zah Sepah Salar Bahadre has sent me from the Carnatic to the Governor General and Council, that between the said Nabob and the Governor and Council a settlement might be made, after the manner of a treaty; and the Nabob has directed me, that in case the Governor and Council should approve of this, I am to represent that it will be necessary for a person of trust to be appointed, and stationed for ever, for the purpose of finally adjusting this matter, and carrying on the correspondence between both quarters: should this be assented to, he has ordered me to request that Mr. Sulivan be appointed, as he can never be satisfied with an unexperienced or unqualified person; and as Mr. Sulivan is a gentleman of the greatest prudence, has resided a long time in the Carnatic, is perfectly acquainted with all the concerns of this country and of the Madras Council, and from a long while has been in the Nabob's most intimate friendship; his appointment, therefore, will be of the greatest advantage to the Company's and the Nabob's interests. For these reasons, I beg leave to request that the Governor General and Council will be pleased to appoint Mr. Sulivan to this office.

The Board having duly weighed the purport of the above request, and being equally convinced of the necessity of the appointment of a person to reside with the Nabob, as the representative and minister of this Government, for the maintenance of the agreement actually concluded between this Government and the Nabob; and being also firmly of opinion, that without the resources of the Carnatic, the war in which it is engaged cannot be supported but by uncertain and languid supplies from Bengal, and eventually involve both in one common state of distress, if not utter ruin; and having also considered the recommendation made by the Nabob in favour of Mr. Richard Joseph Sulivan, and the reasons which have been urged as his inducement to it; and deeming these, as well as the objects of the ap-

pointment, of too great importance to be sacrificed to that punctilio which, on a less urgent occasion, might dissuade the Board from employing a servant of that Presidency, although equally a servant of the same common masters, do resolve, That Mr. Richard Joseph Sulivan be appointed the representative and minister of this Government at the Court of the Nabob Wallaw Jaw, for the purpose of maintaining the faith of this Government, in the agreement now concluded with the said Nabob, and for the representation of such matters as may at any time require his interposition in that character, and in our name, either with the Nabob, or with the President and Council, or Select Committee of Fort St. George, and that credentials to this effect be granted him in the usual form.

Resolved, That the following allowances be granted to Mr. Sulivan, as the representative and minister of this Government at the Court of the Nabob Wallaw Jaw, being the allowances usually granted on such occasions, and that the same be paid by the Buxey.

Lieutenant Col. pay and double batta St. Rs.	1,488 — —
Fixed salary - - - - - -	1,000 — —
Contingencies, including moonshies, servants, &c. - - - - -	500 — —
St. Rs.	2,988 — —

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 2d April, 1781.

The following credentials are granted to Mr. Sulivan.

To Richard Joseph Sulivan, Esquire.

We, the Governor General and Council, in virtue of the powers vested in us by the King and Parliament of Great Britain, and by the English East-India Company, to direct and control the political affairs of all the Company's settlements in India, relying on your fidelity, prudence, integrity, and circumspection, have deputed and appointed you to be the representative and minister of this Government at the Court of the Nabob Wallaujaw, for the purpose of maintaining the faith of this government, in the agreement which has been this day concluded with the said Nabob; and for the representation of such matters as may at any time require your interposition, in that character, and in our name, either with the Nabob, or with the President and Council, or Select Committee of Fort St. George; and we do hereby delegate to you full powers and authority to act in that capacity. Given in Fort William, under our hands,

and the seal of the Company, this second day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-one.

Agreed that the following letter be written to the President and Select Committee at Fort St. George:

Honourable Sir and Sirs,

The Nabob having deemed it expedient, in the present critical state of his affairs, to send his minister Assam Cawn on a deputation to us, and to invest him with full powers to treat with this Government for the attainment of several points as particularly set forth in his instructions; we have maturely considered the nature and extent of the requests preferred by the Nabob, and have, in consequence, come to such resolutions upon them as, we doubt not, will contribute equally to the support of the Nabob's honour and character, the satisfaction of his numerous creditors, the benefit of the Company, and the preservation of his country. For your compleat information upon this subject, we enclose you a copy of the requests of the Nabob, together with copy of the replies we have made to every article separately, and earnestly recommend it to you to conform strictly to the agreement entered into on our parts, and on the part of the Nabob; which, though not executed in the terms of a formal instrument, we look upon to have all the sanction, force, and validity of a treaty.

And for the better security, that the plan of public arrangement settled, as we hope now, upon a permanent basis, and in such a manner as to secure to us the thanks of the creditors, and the approbation of the Company, shall not be interrupted by secondary private considerations, or the interference of individuals, to the detriment of general interest, it was our original intention to appoint a servant of this establishment to be our Resident at the Nabob's durbar, and the instrument of communication from us to you, upon all matters that mutually relate to the Nabob and the Company. In the points above mentioned, though we still admit the propriety of such a measure, and are unwilling to deviate from our original intention, in preference to any of the Company's servants upon another establishment; yet the very particular manner in which the Nabob has recommended Mr. Richard Joseph Sulivan to this appointment, and the intimate confidence with which it appears he has distinguished this gentleman, by joining his name in the commission with Assam Cawn, and thereby making him a party to the agreement which has been concluded, would argue a want of respect in us towards the Nabob, were we to withhold our assent, especially as we have an opinion of the abilities and integrity of Mr. Suli-

 van,

Digitized by Google

van, and believe him qualified for such a trust; we have therefore thought proper to appoint Mr. Richard Joseph Sulivan the representative and minister of this Government at the Court of the Nabob Walau Jau, for the purpose of maintaining the faith of this Government, in the agreement concluded with the said Nabob, and for the representation of such matters as may at any time require his interposition in that character, and in our name, either with the Nabob or with the President and Council, or Select Committee of Fort St. George; and we have accordingly granted him credentials to this effect, a copy of which is enclosed.

We are, &c.

Fort William,
2nd April, 1781.

Extract of Letter from Lord Macartney, K. B. to the Committee of Secrecy, dated 28th September 1781.

Very soon afterwards I had occasion also to consult frequently with him * in consequence of another transaction of the Bengal Government relative to the Nabob of Arcot. His Highness had been for some time disgusted with that dependance which he had transferred to the Company from the Soubah of the Decan, and the throne of Delhi, to whom it originally belonged; he had indulged the hope that the agents deputed by him from hence last year to the Court of England would contribute not a little towards freeing him from any interference of the Company; and a deputation to the Government of Bengal, which is established by Parliament, promised to add to the advantages, or supply the deficiencies of an European embassy. He therefore sent, in March 1781, two persons as his minister, with requests to the Governor General; they indicate his Highness's aim at an increase of possessions and of power, which the Company has not thought just or wise to suffer. To these demands he joined an offer to assign, during the continuance of the present troubles, the revenues of the countries yet remaining to him, towards defraying the charges of the war, on conditions in favour of his creditors, who seem to have been concerned in this embassy of obtaining Company's bonds equal to the revenues of the districts which had been assigned to them, but to which conditions the Government of Fort St. George had no authority from you to agree. This assignment however was pressed forward by the Nabob's Ministers as the first object of their deputation; and as it appeared to

* Mr. Mc. Pherson.

Mr.

Digitized by Google

Mr. Hastings that it promised a reasonable relief to the Carnatic, it was readily accepted in April 1781, and the replies of the Governor General and Council to the Nabob's several requests were transmitted to this Presidency, with an intimation that they should be considered as having all the sanction force, and validity of a treaty; and one of the Ministers from the Nabob returned with credentials as Minister of the Governor General and Council of Bengal at his Highness's Court, for the purpose of maintaining their faith in the execution of that treaty, and also as their representative at this Presidency. Mr. Hastings has been so obliging as to write to me, that if my appointment to this Government had been foreseen, neither he or Mr. Wheler would have had recourse to this unusual intervention, but would have rather referred the Nabob and his creditors to the Presidency of Fort St. George, as being the regular instrument of the Company's participation in the Government of the Carnatic; he has since, and I believe truly, been informed, that if the treaty and embassy had happened (as we expected) to arrive during the late administration, they would have been treated with derision, and resented as injurious. The uneasiness of the Presidencies of both coasts, at any extension of the authority of the Bengal Government over them, beyond the express provision of the act of Parliament, has been often indeed declared in forcible terms in their respective consultations, protests, and correspondence. They had not probably considered that this important and remedial act ought to have a most liberal and extensive, though a just and candid, construction. It must have been meant virtually to give the lead and super-eminence to the Governor General and Council of Bengal in all general transactions, and to commit, though it does not literally, to them the exclusive charge of arranging the great line of policy with those Princes who are really and totally independent of any of your Presidencies. India ought never indeed to be considered by your servants otherwise than in a collective view, without any subdivision of local interest or attachments, and every objection urged against public measures, on the ground of being encroachments by one English settlement, or by one set of Company's servants, over another, has presented itself to my judgement, when contradistinguished from the general good, with such a degree of weakness as to reason, and of danger as to consequences, that I have taken uncommon pains to inculcate my opposite sentiments in this Presidency. To the assertion of rights invaded I have opposed the impropriety of giving such a name to simple institutions, established for the facility of the service, and which must be subservient to its benefit; and to persons

Digitized by Google

persons hurt at the apprehension of contempt, from the participation or subtraction of their authority, it was obvious to observe, that bodies of men, as well as individuals, become in fact contemptible, not by the acts of others, but by the weakness or inconsistency of their own proceedings; few stations being so low as not to be capable of attracting esteem, and even respect, by a strict acquittal of the duties they prescribe. No doubt, with regard to the superiority of the Bengal Government, the truest method of preserving the dignity, and securing the efficacy of authority, is to be cautious in extending the exercise of it to lengths that may throw the existence of it, so extended, into doubt. But necessity gives propriety to every interposition, provided it can be effectual, and it is not to the avowed irregularity of passing by the usual instruments of the Company's participation in the Government of the Carnatic, that in times of critical exigency those instruments being unfit, any solid objection will, in the judgement of wisdom and policy, be allowed; but it is to the attempt of interposing, where the interposition may be rejected, or when, if admitted, it may be prejudicial or ineffectual. The dread of suspension by the Governor General and Council was not likely to enforce obedience from men inclined to dispute, in certain instances, the sentence as well as the crime; and on whom, being determined to quit the service, if executed, it would not be a punishment. Yet the utter rejection of the treaty, and consequent breach with the Bengal Government, reflective as it would prove on the regulations of our policy, would still perhaps be less fatal to your affairs, than the perversion of that treaty, reluctantly admitted by persons who were to carry it into execution. From these dangers at least the settlement was relieved by the change you made in the administration of this Presidency. The whole transaction had now a fair and candid examination; and from the application given to it, and the opportunities of judging of it upon the spot, it is probable that the view taken of it has been a just one. It appeared, that the assignment of the Nabob's revenues to be collected by the conjunct management of his and the Company's servants, with the same control in favour of the former, had actually been already made by his Highness to my predecessor, as to part of his country, and indeed carried into execution; and to me, before he knew the contents of the treaty, he made the offer of the remainder; so that the effect of the intervention of the Supreme Council was, in this instance, which passed for counterbalancing all the Nabob's political demands, to obtain by their means what he had given, or was ready to give, before; but at the same time, as far as the treaty bound,

bound, to bind the Presidency from attempting to improve the plan of finances, if deficient, or, if it should fail, from substituting another in its room. The necessary participation of the Company in the Government of the Carnatic, through its representatives upon the spot, is meant to be rather the effect of influence than the exertion of force. The immediate interference of another Government, and through another channel, destroys or diminishes that necessary influence. If it had been perverted to the purposes of corruption, it was full time to change the hands by which it was to be directed; but there is no alternative between taking away the management from this Presidency entirely, or leaving to it, under instructions from the superintending power, the executive means of managing with advantage and effect. Very soon after my accession to this Government I had a strong instance of the disadvantage resulting from this interposition of the authority of the Supreme Council, and the imbesility into which it cast this Presidency. In the midst of our distresses without money or provision, the army in arrears, and the garrisons ready to mutiny, I applied to the Nabob, in the most urgent manner for assistance. He never precisely denied his ability to give it. Many of his friends acknowledged he could have given it. The final answer, however, which was sent to me, expressed that his Highness had concluded with the Governor General of Bengal, which provided for all the supplies which he should furnish.

Notwithstanding my experience of the ill consequences of this immediate intervention of that Government, I was resolved, if it had been empowered so to intervene, to abide strictly and scrupulously by every clause and article of its conventions. The exercise of the power was with me at first a presumption of the right. Your instructions indeed, after delivering your opinion on the plans proposed for remedying the defects in the present system on the coast, direct the Presidency of Fort St. George to negociate the business with the Nabob; and express the continuance of your hope, that his Highness may in concert with us, forthwith establish certain resources, and heartily join in the most powerful exertions, and make such speedy and judicious arrangements, as shall appear proper and satisfactory to us; but if that Prince should finally refuse his consent to arrangements which equally involve the welfare and the safety of your property in one common cause, you then desire us to apply to the Governor General and Council of Bengal, *who in such case are empowered to furnish us with instructions how to proceed.* These positive directions appear to mark the precise boundaries of the authority confided respectively in this Presidency, and in the Supreme Council,

Council, as declared by a member of that Board. The whole of this discussion leads to no certainty, that our strict conformity to the agreement made by that Power, by the Nabob of the Carnatic, in the first instance, without any previous application from or concurrence with the Presidency of Madras, would free us from all responsibility in acknowledging their validity, or abiding by their contents. But I have, with a view to the great good which united efforts operate, and from the respect which I bear to the opinions of Mr. Hastings, adapted my conduct to them, and shall place my satisfaction in such a faithful, zealous, and, I hope, judicious execution of his plans, as to give them the best chance of success; and, lest the appearance upon record of a difference of opinion, either as to authority or to measures, should be productive of inconvenience, or be disagreeable to him, the letter from the Committee, on the subject of the treaty and embassy, became no formal resolution of the Board; and I was authorized by my colleagues to acquaint him, that he might consider it as proceeding merely from them as individuals, and addressed to him alone. As far indeed as this transaction relates to finances, it must be observed, that no arrangement of them, while the present war continues, can be productive of much revenue. Part of the country has been ruined by the ravages of Hyder; part of it has been deserted by the dread of his inhumanity; and the remainder, with little more exception than what immediately surrounds our garrisons, or is covered by our camp, is under the command of the numerous bodies of horse belonging to the enemy, whose rapid motions enable them to guard extensive possessions.

Extract of Letter from Lord Macartney to Sir Eyre Coote, dated 1st September 1781.

You have probably heard that the Nabob has received an agent from Calcutta, whose business is said to be to maintain the faith of the engagements between his Highness and the Bengal Government.

Extract of Letter from General Sir Eyre Coote to Lord Macartney; dated Camp Tirrore, 2d September 1781.

The part of your letter which has most engaged my thoughts and attention, is that which mentions the Nabob's new Agent from Bengal. It is an arrangement which I by no means approve, being a direct infringement of that regular line of executive authority which has been constitutionally

tutionally established by act of Parliament—It is in my opinion an act of supererogation in the Governor General, and an attempt to annihilate a power, which can only be diminished or abolished by an authority above any existing in this country. And I am thoroughly convinced, that the Government of Madras cannot, without being liable to a charge of breach of trust, tacitly acquiesce in so glaring an encroachment upon those privileges, which have been assigned to them by a constitutional act of Parliament; I hope therefore your Lordship will not allow it to pass unmolested—I can only say, that had I been sitting as a member of the Board of Bengal, when such a measure was proposed, I should have protested against it.

Extract of Letter from the President and Council of Fort St. George to the Governor General and Council, dated 8th September 1781.

Your late appointment, being the first of the kind, to Fort St. George, since the establishment of your superintending power, is to be considered only as an extraordinary deviation from your general conduct, and which, when made, you no doubt thought warranted by the necessity of the occasion. It would have been, however, particularly desirable, that the effect had ceased with the cause which had produced it; because the object of your choice on this occasion, though in other respects a gentleman of much merit, might be thought to have incurred the imputation of a breach of trust to the Company.

Mr. Richard Joseph Sulivan, at the very time that he was confidential Secretary to the Select Committee of this Presidency, and consequently possessed of all the views and secrets of the Company, as far as relate to this Government, privately entered into the service of the Nabob, with whom, by the orders of the Court of Directors, none of the Company's servants are allowed to have any communication, without a permission from the President. He undertook his Highness's plan of independence, so reprobated by the Company, as well as of those other projects contained in his requests, with which you have either positively refused, or have simply declined complying. If he acknowledged himself to your Board to have been Secretary to this Committee, you must have either supposed that he had resigned that office before his acceptance of a charge from another master, or that he had the permission of his superiors for holding both. The fact is however otherwise; and your letter was the first intimation to the Committee of Mr. Sulivan's commission from the Nabob. His resignation of his office at the Board was subsequent

to

Digitized by Google

to your nomination of him as your representative; the acceptance of an office on another establishment, without the approbation of the Board, in whose service he continued, was thought a sufficient ground, by the members of it at that time, for coming to a resolution of calling upon him, on his arrival here, to justify his conduct. We however do not wish to treat him with harshness; and though our lenity may possibly be considered as injurious to the discipline of the service, yet, from respect to your partiality for him, from respect to the name he bears, and from a willingness to believe that he has erred rather through levity than ill intention, we yet forbear to punish him for his misconduct; and we trust that so signal an instance of our moderation will be a most convincing proof of our sincere desire to cultivate and maintain the most perfect harmony and good correspondence with you.

Extract of General Letter to Fort St. George, dated 28th August 1782: Received at Fort St. George, 31st January 1783.

Para. 5. The conduct of Mr. Richard Joseph Sulivan, in quitting the confidential office which he filled, and going privately into the service of the Nabob, as related by you in the narrative of the proceedings of your Select Committee, from the 17th February to the 22d June 1781, in the letter from your Select Committee to the Governor General and Council, dated 8th September 1781, and likewise in the letter from Lord Macartney to the Governor General, dated 9th September 1781, appears to us of so extraordinary and alarming a nature, and as holding out such an evil example to our servants in general, who ought to be discouraged and deterred, by every means in our power, from practices of the same kind, that we have thought proper to dismiss the said Mr. Sulivan from our service, and he is hereby dismissed accordingly.

Extract of Fort St. George Select Consultations, 12th February 1781.

Dispatched the following letter to Mr. Richard Joseph Sulivan:

To Mr. Richard Joseph Sulivan.

SIR,

I am directed by the right honourable the President and Select Committee to acquaint you, that the honourable Court of Directors were much surprised at your appointment to reside with the Nabob as the representative and minister of the Governor General and Council, the natural tendency of such an appointment being to lessen the respect which

Digitized by Google

which ought to be ſhewn to the authority of a Governor General and Council of Fort St. George, not only by the Nabob, but alſo by the neighbouring Princes; that the reſidence of the Nabob in the vicinity of Madras clearly pointed out their Governor General and Council of Fort St. George as the fitteſt perſons to negociate any matters with his Highneſs from the Bengal Government; and that they therefore revoke your ſaid appointment.

Your conduct in quitting the confidential office which you filled, and going privately into the ſervice of the Nabob, appears alſo to the Court of Directors of ſo extraordinary and alarming a nature, and as holding out ſuch an evil example to their ſervants in general, who ought to be diſcouraged and deterred, by every means in their power, from practices of the ſame kind, that they have thought proper to diſmiſs you from their ſervice, and I am directed to ſignify to you ſuch diſmiſſion accordingly.

I have the honour to be
Sir,
Your moſt obedient ſervant,
(Signed) JOHN HUDLESTON,
Secretary.

Fort St. George,
12th Feby. 1783.

Extract of Fort St. George Select Conſultations, 19th February 1783.

Extract of Letter from the Right Honourable the Preſident and Select Committee, to the Governor General and Council.

We have the honour to acquaint you, that by diſpatches brought here by the Greyhound packet from the Court of Directors, they expreſs their ſurpriſe at the appointment of Mr. Richard Joſeph Sulivan, in conſequence of the before-mentioned agreement, to reſide with the Nabob as your repreſentative and miniſter, the natural tendency of ſuch an appointment being to leſſen the reſpect which onght over to be ſhewn to the authority of a Governor General and Council of Fort St. George, not only by the Nabob, but alſo by the neighbouring powers. The Directors add, that the reſidence of the Nabob in the vicinity of Madras, clearly points out their Governor and Council as the fitteſt perſons to negociate any matters with his Highneſs from your Government, and therefore revoke the appointment of Mr. Sulivan.

Extract of Court's Letter to Bengal, dated 12th July 1782; Received in Bengal the 18th February 1783.

Para. 51. We have paid due attention to your advices, reſpecting the agreement made between your Government and

and the Nabob of the Carnatic, in March 1781; and upon the maturest consideration of the paper entitled, "The "Requests of the Nabob," and also of the replies thereto from the Governor General and Council, we cannot be of opinion that the said agreement was either necessary or expedient; and do therefore positively direct, that the same be forthwith annulled.

52. We were extremely surprised at the appointment of Mr. Richard Joseph Sulivan, in consequence of the before-mentioned agreement, to reside with the Nabob, as the representative and minister of your Government; *for unless you had cause to suspect, that our Governor and Council at Madras would not have followed your instructions, or that they had before actually disobeyed your orders*, respecting such subjects as they are obliged by act of Parliament to receive and obey your instructions upon, such an appointment must naturally tend to lessen the respect which ought ever to be shewn to them, not only by the Nabob and his family, but also by the neighbouring Princes. The Nabob's residence at Chepauk, which is in the vicinity of Madras, clearly points out our Governor General and Council as the fittest persons to negociate any matters with his Highness from your Government; we do therefore hereby revoke the said appointment of Mr. Sulivan.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 15th March 1783.

The Governor General.—I have hitherto forborne to recommend a successor to Mr. James Grant, who has requested the permission of the Board to resign his station as Resident at the Court of the Nabob Nizam Ally Cawn, because it was not a point that immediately pressed; and the troubles in which that Prince was engaged appeared to afford a temporary security against any designs which he might wish to form against any of the Company's territories. As it appears from the preceding letter, that he is entirely freed from his late embarrassments, it becomes a subject of important consideration with the Board to obviate his being led into any hostile design against us; and for that purpose I recommend that a letter be immediately written to him, to inform him of the treaty lately concluded with the Peshwa, and to refer him for the particulars of this negociation to the Minister whom we propose to depute to him in the room of Mr. James Grant, whose ill state of health has prevented him from proceeding to his station, and has therefore requested our permission to be relieved from it. That as he has already notified his assent to receive Mr. James Grant, and invited him to his Court, we have, without waiting for his formal acquiescence,

Digitized by Google

sence, made the appointment of a successor, whom I would propose to name to him, and I beg leave to recommend that Mr. Richard Joseph Sulivan be appointed to this office. Independently of the experience which the Board have received of Mr. Sulivan's abilities, I have an additional inducement for recommending him to their particular employment, in the hopes that he may be made an effectual instrument of reconciliation between the Nabob Nizam Ally Cawn, and the Nabob Wallah Jah, an object highly meriting the attention of the Board; and I am convinced that nothing will be more highly gratifying to Nizam Ally Cawn, than our endeavours to effect so laudable a purpose. And for this reason I would propose to mention this to Nizam Ally Cawn, as one of the motives for the choice of this gentleman to that appointment.

Ordered, That this minute be circulated, for the separate opinions of the members of the Board.

Extract of Secret Letter from Bengal, dated 20th October, 1783.

Para. 24. It is very embarrassing and distressing to us, to see our orders contemned by the other Presidencies, and your authority quoted, whether applicable or not, for their disobedience, in cases where we are unacquainted with its having been given; but on the contrary, have reason to suppose that no orders exist from your Court, of which we have not been furnished with copies, since you have made it a rule to transmit to us copies of all such orders as you occasionally dispatch to them. An early communication thereof is likewise essential to prevent error; and here we beg leave to remark, that your general letter to the President and Council at Fort St. George, of the 12th July, 1782, did not accompany the first letter which we received from you of that date by the Hound sloop, but reached us in a subsequent packet; had it arrived in proper time it would have apprized us of your pleasure for the dismission of Mr. Richard Joseph Sulivan from the service, and prevented a motion which was made for his appointment to the Court of Nizam Ally Cawn, as a proper person to succeed Mr. Holland in the station of Resident there; it would also have prevented a letter which was written to that Chief, for his assent to the appointment, and also the letter of apology yet due for not making it, after he had signified his approbation of Mr. Sulivan for holding the appointment.

Digitized by Google

To the Honourable Court of Directors of the United East-India Company.

Fort William, 28th Nov. 1783.

Honourable Sirs,

1. Among the mortifications to which I have been continually subjected since my entrance on the office which I yet hold by repeated appointment during a period of near twelve years, there is none which I so severely feel as my concern in the sufferings of those whom my selection of them for the most important trusts in your service has exposed to persecution here, and to censures, fines, deprivation, and dismission from home.

2. It is hard to be loaded with a weighty responsibility without power, to be compelled to work with instruments imposed upon me which I cannot trust, and to see the terrors of high authority held over the heads of such as I myself employ in the discharge of my public duties.

3. Yet, in defiance of past experience, I will hope and believe that this unnatural influence will have its termination, and that my present appeal to your justice will produce the first symptom of a return of that benevolence which your honourable Court has shewn to all, even the meanest of my predecessors, and which has been denied to me alone, and to me invariably.

4. Mr. Richard Joseph Sulivan is the object of this address — He was unhappily commissioned by the Nabob Wallah Jah, your old and faithful friend and ally, to represent to this Government, which a solemn act of the British Legislature had taught him to regard as the first and only efficient instrument of your political dominion, and guardian of your national faith in India, the grievances which he sustained, and to solicit our acceptance of the wealth and resources of his country, for the prosecution of the war, then raging in it to a degree which threatened it with speedy destruction, and that of your interests involved and united in his. A prayer of so extraordinary a nature was rendered yet more unaccountable, but by conclusions which we could only suspect, but durst not encourage, from the complaints which were made to us at the same time by the Presidency of Fort St. George, that they had in vain endeavoured to prevail on the Nabob to grant to them what he was thus endeavouring to prevail upon us to accept. After the great exertions which this Government had used to relieve and aid the Presidency of Fort St. George with the military strength, and the resources of grain and treasure of these provinces, by which we had already drawn great distress on ourselves, we should not

Digitized by Google

not only have acted inconsistently with the zeal which had hitherto animated us, but have been wanting in the principles of common discretion, had we rejected the means so tendered of applying what the ravages of war had spared of the wealth of the Carnatic to its natural defence. A deference to the feelings or interests of individuals, however dignified, would on such an occasion have been surely ill timed, and even criminal, if we were internally convinced that it would defeat the purpose which it was so necessary to obtain.

5. In such a case we had but one alternative, which was, either to accept the offer, or reject it.—It would not admit of a reference; for I know not in what terms a reference could have been made. We could not say to the Presidency of Fort St. George, "Gentlemen, the Nabob Walla "Jah has arraigned your conduct, and we require you "to examine the truth of his allegations, and, on conviction, pass judgement on yourselves:" neither could we direct the Nabob to make the same tender to the Presidency of Fort St. George which he had made to us, after both he and they had declared, that he had refused to grant the subject of it to them, on their reiterated and urgent requisition.

6. We acknowledged the Nabob's deputation; we accepted his proposal; and, at his request, we commissioned Mr. Sulivan, in the character of our agent and minister, to reside with him, and to attend to the performance of the conditions with which it was connected.

7. Whatever blame may be imputed to Mr. Sulivan, for his acceptance of the original commission, it was wholly obliterated in him, and transferred to the members of this Government, who acknowledged it, who had the legal power of sanctifying it, and did sanctify it, by making it the instrument of a treaty concluded under it, and united other trusts from themselves in addition to it. And how was he, impressed with a high respect for the superior Government, confident in the rectitude of its acts, and possibly yielding an habitual deference to the personal characters of its members, to suspect that in thus submitting his services to their guidance, he was entailing on himself the penalties which had never been before annexed but to flagrant and intentional guilt; or that he was departing from his fidelity to his immediate superiors, by holding communication with theirs on points of which they had themselves a claim on the latter for every information which he could give?

8. Something too may be pleaded for the unguarded generosity which is natural to a season of life not yet matured to the steady possession of judgement, unbiassed by

 passion,

Digitized by Google

passion, and which might have been almost allowably, on such an occasion, excited by the belief of severe distress, existing in an aged Prince, whose life, to the last dregs of it, had been spent in the mutual intercourse of friendship with the Company, and the British nation, and in a participation of all the vicissitudes which had attended their fortune, and by the hope of becoming the instrument of its removal. Your honourable Court may have seen, in the more recent transactions of the Government of Fort St. George, cause to wish both that his agency and the interposition of this Government, however warranted on their original ground, had been rendered more effectual, and to make larger allowances both for him and for us.

9. Let me not, however, draw upon myself that portion of your resentment from which I have endeavoured to exonerate him. My conduct still remains to be measured by the same rule as if he had no concern in it. If I was prompted to uncommon exertions, to relieve the intolerable expences which the calamities of your other Presidency had drawn on this, to repel the ruin which threatened the existence of your interests in the Carnatic, and to preserve the credit of your political faith; if the means which I used were warranted by the constitutional powers of your superior and controlling Government, I affirm, with all humility, that I ought to be exempted from all criminal reproach, although I may, in your judgement, have overrated the occasion which seemed to call for such interposition; for it is not easy to devise any ground for the construction of an interested, ambitious, or vindictive motive, impelling me to act as I did. I am not a private creditor of the Nabob, nor (unhappy man!) has he even the means of subsistence, much less of corruption, left him. I hazarded the sacrifice of personal reputation, both in suffering a diminution of the prosperous state of my own Government, and in assuming a participation in the concerns of another, which was already sunk in disgrace, and threatened with annihilation; and the gentleman who was at the head of that department, and therefore most affected by my intervention, was personally known to me only by former habits of friendly intercourse. I remembered him with affection, and shall heartily forgive him, if he feels a sense of injury done him by a measure which originated from a source too pure to admit of the admixture of any private consideration.

10. The members of this Administration, however varying in other sentiments, have all concurred in testifying their opinion of Mr. Sulivan's worth and abilities, and in entreating you to pardon what you may yet deem culpable in his conduct. I humbly beg leave to make this separate

intercession

Digitized by Google

interceſſion; for I have been, and am, from public embarraſſments occaſioned by his diſmiſſion, the greateſt ſufferer by it; praying that you will be pleaſed to reſtore him to the ſervice, and (may I add) to indemnify myſelf and my former colleague from the ſelf reproach of having contributed to the poverty and diſtreſs of an unſuſpecting dependant, to permit him to draw the allowances which were aſſigned him by the laſt but ineffectual appointment which he received from this Government, to be their agent and repreſentative at the Court of the Nabob Nizam ul Moolk. It was vacated only by his diſmiſſion from the ſervice, after having been notified in ſuch a mode, as has rendered it difficult to ſupply it with any other.

11. I entreat your pardon for the length of this addreſs, which I ſhould have deemed it a duty of reſpect to have comprized in a much narrower compaſs, had it ſimply related to an individual; but as its immediate object was connected with a great and important meaſure of Government, on the rectitude of which the propriety of my addreſſing you at all on ſuch an occaſion depended, I have been unavoidably drawn into a diſcuſſion of thoſe points in which both ſubjects were combined. For a fuller elucidation of the general meaſure, permit me to ſolicit your particular attention to the minutes of this Board, dated the 21ſt and 30th of July, 11th Auguſt, and 13th of October, which contain a complete detail of it, unembarraſſed with the voluminous and deſultory matter with which it has at various times ſwelled our conſultations.

I have the honour to be,

Honourable Sirs,

Your moſt obedient,

and faithful ſervant,

(Signed) WARREN HASTINGS.

Digitized by Google

Copy of Proceedings and Correspondence relative to the Ranah of Gohud, since the Year 1781.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, 10 *December* 1781.

Extract of Treaty concluded on behalf of the Company, by Colonel Muir, with Majadee Scindia, 13 *October* 1781.

Art. 4. That whatever country of the Maha Rajah's shall have been taken possession of by the Company, on this side the Jumna, Colonel Muir shall restore; and the Maha Rajah shall agree not to molest or disturb the country of Lockindar Ranna Chatter Sing Behader Deleer Tury, nor the Fort of Gwalier, which is at present in his possession, so long as the Ranna Saheb observes his treaty with the English; nor the country of Mhy-hut-Ram Sing Tuyg under Behadre, which is at present in the possession of the Ranna.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 18th February 1782.

Dear Sir,

Enclosed, I have the honour to send you a duplicate of my letter of the 26th instant.

I shall in this letter give you as full an account as I have been able to procure, of the present disputes betwixt the Marattas and the Ranah of Ghode. The claims of the Marattas are as follow:

1st. They claim a right to the restitution of Cutchnagar, the territory which was conquered from them by the united forces of the Ranah and the English, and which, according to the treaty of Colonel Muir, should have been restored to the Marattas. Bow Bucksey was sent with a body of troops to collect the revenue of it, and in some parts his aumils have been established, but the principal forts have, however, continued in the possession of the Ranah. The Marattas demand, therefore, either the entire surrender of these forts, or a fixed revenue, at the rate of 5,04,000 per annum.

2d. A tribute on account of the district of Binde. It appears that this claim is derived from the time when that country was in the possession of the Marattas. It was taken from them by the late Vizier Sujah ul Doulah, when he

he reduced the countries on this ſide of the Jamnah, as far as Janſey; and, at the requeſt of the Ranah, it was given by the Vizier to Buht Sing, Rajah of Badour. It was afterwards taken from him by Aſoph ul Doulah, and given to Himmut Bahader. Again it fell into the poſſeſſion of Buht Sing; when Himmut Buhadre, alarmed at the deſigns of Moktur ul Doulah, fled to Nudzif Cawn, at Delhy. This claim, therefore, is in fact not againſt the Ranah, but againſt Buht Sing, who ſtill retains poſſeſſion of the diſtrict of Binde. But the Ranah has drawn it upon himſelf, by aſſuming the patronage of Buht Sing, and the management of his political intereſts, and declaring he will ſtand forth in his defence.

3d. Five mehals of Sukerwary, which of old belonged to Nurwar and Gualier. They were afterwards conquered by the Marattas, and annexed to Kudeir under Eetit Row. Some years ago they were reduced by the Ranah. The Marattas are deſirous of recovering theſe five mehauls, though I am not ſure if they have yet formally demanded them from the Ranah.

Theſe claims have for ſome time paſt given riſe to a variety of diſcuſſions; and on my arrival in camp, I found that there was a negociation on foot betwixt Sindia and the Ranah, which was conducted on the part of the latter by His Pirrſhaad, Moonſhey of Siwajee Eetul. The Ranah, it is ſaid, claimed the Cutchwagar country, agreeable to the ſeparate treaty which he had made with the Marattas; but the difficulty lay in ſettling the annual revenue. For the preſent year, in particular, the Ranah claimed large deductions on account of the depredations and collections made by Bow Buckſey. To the ſecond claim alſo the Ranah was willing to agree, but he claimed a deduction on account of the diſtricts of Mahguwan, &c.; which, though they had formerly belonged to Bend, had for many years paſt been annexed to his own poſſeſſions. For ſome days there remained a proſpect of an accommodation, till Sindia thought it expedient to accelerate the negociation, by letting looſe his pindarries on the Ranah's country.

Both parties then applied to me, as the repreſentation of the Engliſh Government. The Ranah complained generally of the bad faith of the Marattas, and the intentions which they had formed of deviating from the terms of their agreements reſpecting him, as ſtipulated in the treaty of Colonel Muir. Sindia applied more particularly: he ſent a meſſage to me by Bow Buckſey, repreſenting that diſputes had ariſen betwixt him and the Ranah; that he had in vain endeavoured to ſettle them by amicable means. He had now advanced to the borders of the Ranah's country, but could not proceed farther until he had aſked my

 advice,

Digitized by Google

advice, as representative of the English Government, lest his conduct might occasion disputes betwixt him and the English, which he was extremely desirous of avoiding.

The answer which I must ultimately give to these applications was clearly pointed out in my instructions, but several reasons induced me to defer giving any answer whatsoever for a few days.

During my stay at Etaya, Colonel Muir complained much of the conduct of the Ranah. He accused him of not marching in time, or with a sufficient body of troops, to his support; of neglecting to use his endeavours to procure supplies of grain for the army; and of clandestinely negociating and concluding a separate treaty with the Marattas, contrary to the interests of the English. The two former of these charges depend on facts that come within the immediate knowledge of the Colonel, and however the Ranah may attempt to justify or extenuate them, their reality cannot be doubted; I have therefore confined myself in my inquiries to the last charge. The Ranah, on finding that he was suspected of having entered into separate engagements with Sindia, justified himself by saying, that he had Colonel Muir's permission in writing for so doing. Having desired to see a copy of the Colonel's permission, and also of the agreement entered into by him and the Marattas on both sides, he sent me the copy of a letter, said to have been written to him by Colonel Muir, under date the 27th August 1781, of which the following is a translation—" You may afford every degree of assistance " to Chimnajee, that in the manner that I have stipulated " 18 days on the subject of peace, I am hopeful that it will " certainly take place in that period according to what I " have written: assure him also that in that space of—will " make no attack, nor commit no kind of hostilities, on " condition that none are committed by the opposite party: " You must also obtain some assurance on this head from " them; and if the Pattele pleases, let writings be mutu- " ally given on this subject: also in this space no troops will " march across the Jemna."

The Ranah said, that he could not send the two other papers as required, lest they might be intercepted on the road; afterwards, on my appearing still unsatisfied, he sent me the copy of a letter which he wrote to Sindia in consequence of the above permission, the translation of it is as follows:—" Chimnajee formerly went from this, and will " inform you of all the particulars of peace and friend- " ship betwixt you and the English: in 18 days peace " will be established between you and the English, and if " any deviation should take place in what has been settled, " I will join with you. Dated Badoon Sood Khyass,

" Sumbet

Digitized by Google

"Sumbet 1838." This letter was written, he said, to prevent the Marattas from breaking up the conference: he maintained that he had executed no other engagement whatever, and desired that if Sindia alledged the contrary, he might be required to produce it.

Having obtained so little insight into the real conduct of the Ranah through this channel, I resolved to try what I could procure through the means of the Marattas; and I was the more inclined to make an inquiry of this kind, because I must in the end decline any interference in their disputes; and as this must appear a concession to them, I was desirous that it should not be considered as the effect of a temporary policy, or of too easy a disposition in us, but as the result of well-grounded suspicions, or perhaps a clear detection of the perfidy of our late ally, which no longer made it necessary for us to assert his rights.

Accordingly, when I received Sindia's Message, I replied, that the disputes which were going on between him and the Ranah could not have escaped my ears; but that I had hitherto paid no attention to them, and might never have appeared to know any thing of them, if he had not first broached the subject. That considering the Ranah as one who was connected in alliance with the Company, it might have been my duty to assert his rights, according to the treaty of Colonel Muir, but that some suspicions which were entertained of his faith had induced me to remain silent; that suspicions alone, however, could not be opposed to solemn treaties; and as these suspicions were founded on transactions said to have passed betwixt the Marattas previous to the treaty of Colonel Muir, they only could know with certainty how far they were just or not; and that I wished therefore that they would shew me some authentic proofs of the Ranah's treachery towards the English Government, before I returned any answer to Scindia's message.

In the course of the two following days Bow Bucksey informed me, by desire of Sindia, that previous to our delivering over the fort of Gualier, a treaty was in agitation betwixt him and the Ranah, through the means of Gungudir, but that the negociation was afterwards broken off— that some months before the date of Colonel Muir's treaty, Chimnajie and Germajee were sent to the Ranah, and a second negociation took place. The Ranah drew out and sent a form of an engagement, which he wished to obtain for his own satisfaction and security, and verbally promised, that if Sindia would return it to him executed, he would distress the English detachment, by cutting off their supplies of grain, and give them every molestation in his power in their march back towards the Jumna. That

Sindia accordingly ſent to the Ranah a paper under his ſeal and ſignature, in which the articles, as propoſed by the Ranah, were tranſcribed, and under each of them ſhort ſentences were written, either marking his approbation, or expreſſing the alterations or conditions which he thought neceſſary; and that ſoon after the negociation took place with Colonel Muir.

It appeared from this repreſentation, that no agreement whatever had been executed by the Ranah; and, on my expreſſing my ſurprize at the ſeeming inconſiſtency of this circumſtance, it was obſerved, that the articles of agreement were all in favour of the Ranah; and that Sindia being much ſuperior to the Ranah, and requiring nothing from him, did not think it neceſſary to exact any writing. The only proof which Bow Buckſey could bring me of the reality of the agreement, were,

1ſt. A paper not ſigned or ſealed, but ſaid to be the original paper of articles ſent by the Ranah; a tranſlation of theſe articles, and the anſwers, accompanies this letter. It correſponds with the paper formerly ſent by Colonel Muir in every thing but the arrangement of the articles and anſwers; a difference which may eaſily be accounted for, from the croſs manner in which it was written.

2d. An original letter from the Ranah to Bow Buckſey, dated Cuttach Suddajeh, in which he complains of the Bow for entering the diſtrict of Cutchwagar, contrary to the agreement which had paſſed betwixt him and Sindia, through the mediation of Sewagee Ectul.

Theſe were all the written proofs that the Marattas could produce to me. They alledged, that the nature of the agreement, which was executed only on one ſide, could not admit of more; and that a conſiderable difficulty had ariſen in clearing up the matter by circumſtantial evidence, as the negociation had been managed by Sewajee Ectul, and the ſervants Chimnajee and Girmajee, who had ſince eſpouſed the Ranah's cauſe, and were on that account at ſome degree of variance with Sindia. Though theſe proofs fall ſhort of what have been expected, I have ſcarcely a doubt in my own mind that a negociation took place between the Ranah and the Marattas previous to the treaty of Colonel Muir; and I even believe, that he received a ſeparate agreement from Sindia, though it is plain that a counterpart was not executed by him. It ſeems probable that Sindia's diſtreſſes led him haſtily to grant this agreement; and that a proſpect opening ſoon after of a peace with the Colonel, he entered as haſtily into it, without concluding effectually his meaſures with the Ranah, ſatisfied perhaps with only that letter, which the Ranah him-

Digitized by Google

himself acknowledges to have written to him, and which is quoted in the course of this address.

The Ranah has indirectly alledged, though I know not with what sincerity, that on my requisition he would deliver up the forts of Lukar, &c. and settle the revenues of Binde. If such a requisition were made, he might claim our interference in settling all his disputes. If the Ranah was sincerely desirous of fulfilling this part of the treaty, he is doubtless informed of the articles, and might do it of himself without any requisition, but I believe he has made no such proposals to the Marattas; and though some of their pretensions are ill-founded, yet, whilst the Ranah maintains possession of the forts, they have a just right to use hostile measures against him: accordingly to the late treaty, the Ranah may deserve to suffer for his conduct towards us, yet in a political light, as his territories form a strong barrier to our own, it seems not our interest that he should be entirely destroyed, but this is an event of which he appears to have no apprehension: except from the interference of the English, his territories may be overrun and laid waste by superior numbers, but secure in his forts, he may bid defiance to the whole force of the Maratta's empire for a period of years, and whenever necessity compels them to withdraw their armies, he may easily recover all the open country. The Marattas themselves, though they affect a high language, and have even sent for some battering cannon from the fort of Belsah, are, I believe fully sensible of their inability to reduce the Ranah, or make a permanent conquest of any part of his territories: both are apprehensive of the interference of the English, and both gave out that they expected our aid. There is nothing so arduous which they think may not be atchieved by us; and it was recommended to Sindia, by some of his counsellors, to ask our assistance in the reduction of Gualier, but no proposition of this kind has been as yet made to me.

The answers which I have given are such as leave us in a perfect state of neutrality. To the Ranah I have declined interfering in his behalf, because I have no authority from you; and because, from apparent circumstances, his disputes with the Marattas are grounded on agreements with them foreign to the treaty with Colonel Muir: and to Sindia I have declined giving any advice, because, though he has afforded grounds to suspect that the Ranah has acted improperly towards us, yet the proofs he has produced are not such as could justify me in taking a decided line without the orders of my superiors; and in the mean time, I have declared to both, that I must leave them to settle their disputes betwixt themselves.

Digitized by Google

The ſubſtantial part of theſe anſwers is framed exactly according to the letter of your orders; and the reaſons which I have aſſigned will, I hope, meet with your approbation — they are calculated both to impreſs the Ranah and Sindia with a juſt ſenſe of our public faith, ſince they evidently imply that uncertainty alone induces us to ſtand neuter; and that a more clear conviction of the Ranah's fidelity or perfidy would have biaſſed us to take an active part either for or againſt him.

Although war has actually commenced, yet the negociations betwixt Sindia and the Ranah are ſtill going forward; and it ſeems not improbable, that in a ſhort period the whole of their diſputes may be accommodated.

I am, &c.

(Signed) D. ANDERSON.

Sindia's camp, on the banks of the Purbutty, four coſs from Niniar, 29 Jan. 1782.

Tranſlation of a paper ſhewn by Mahdajee Sindia to Mr. Anderſon, as the original ſtipulations drawn out and ſent to him by the Ranah of Ghode, with the alterations and anſwers returned by Sindia annexed.

Stipulations required by the Ranah.	*Anſwers annexed by Sindia.*
Articles of agreement ſtipulated to Siry Maha Rajah Derage Sery Rajah Seway Sery Ranah Chitter, Sing Hohinder, Behader Delar Jung, by Siry Rajah Siry Rajah, Siry Subadar Geu, Siry Madhur Row Geu Sindia; viz.	The ſtipulations which I have made are binding.
1ſt. I will not give you any moleſtation regarding the fort of Gualeer, which is yours.	I agree not to give you any moleſtation regarding the fort, which is yours.
2d. I will not give you any moleſtation regarding the ancient diſtricts of the 5 Mehals of the Sircar of the Havelly, Gualiar, Towergarr Sicherwarry, Auſſer Horroo Jenee Glyſwanee, Halha, Goſſaulpere, Ghaſi-	Agreed to.

gar,

Digitized by Google

gar, Coorpore, and Soſſeram, which you hold according to a Sunnud of the Nabob Vizier

3d. If you ſhall accompany me or any other Chief who may come from the preſence, in any expedition for the reduction of countries, you will be entitled to a ſhare in the ſame manner as Holkar and myſelf.

If you come in perſon, with fit equipments, this article is agreed to.

4th. You muſt pay the revenue of Cutchwagar, according to the manner in which other Moomdaders pay their revenues to the treaſury. You will receive an Iſtimrany Pottah, and I will give you no moleſtation regarding theſe diſtricts.

Having inſpected the Jumma of Cutchwagar, I will give you a leaſe thereof, according to which you muſt pay the revenue of government; conformably to this ſtipulation, I agree.

5th. I will give you a general diſcharge for paſt claims, from the year 1813 of the Sumbut, until 1838, and no one ſhall hereafter give you any moleſtation.

From 1813 to 1838 is forgiven. No demand ſhall henceforth be made on that account. This is accordingly agreed to.

6th. Conformably to the agreement which I have written and delivered, I ſhall alſo give you one from Serymunt Pundit Purdhaan.

I will give you a paper conformable to theſe ſtipulations, under the Sicca of the government.

7th. If any Chief ſhould come from the Decan, and make war againſt you, I will join with you.

If any Chief ſhould come from the Decan, and make war againſt you, and you ſhould have adhered firmly to your engagements, I will take care of you.

8th. If I ſhould require your attendance on the ſervice of the government, you will with ſatisfaction attend; but ſhould any other chief come, if you are ſatisfied you will attend, if otherwiſe, not.

Agreed to.

9th. Your friends ſhall be mine, and my friends ſhall be yours, In this manner our

If you adhere to the rules of friendſhip, this is agreed to and ſtipulated.

Digitized by Google

friends and enemies ſhall be deemed mutual.

10th. I will not make peace with the Europeans; or, if I do make peace, I will do it through you.

Agreed to.

11th. Rajah Buht Sing ſhall be my friend in the ſame manner as he is yours; I will procure for him the free poſſeſſion of Penahut, and then I will receive whatever revenue you ſhall ſettle for Bind; and after I have received the revenue, I will give him no moleſtation regarding Bind.

Let Rajah Buht Sing himſelf procure the free poſſeſſion of Penahut, he muſt pay the revenue of government; or, if he does not pay it, let him give up the diſtrict.

12th. If I depart from the agreement which I have written, and delivered to, Oty Seroop Goorſo Saheb and Aſht Dein ſtand betwixt us.

If you act according to the agreement which has paſſed betwixt you and me, let Sery ſtand betwixt us.

The twelve articles, according to the above particulars, ſtipulated in Mitty Sawun Punchumny, in the year 1838 of the Sumbut, near the town of Doongar.'

It is ſtipulated according to theſe twelve articles, 4th Shawban, 1180 Leſur.

A true tranſlation.

(Signed) JAMES ANDERSON.

EXTRACTS

Digitized by Google

Extracts from Mr. Anderson's Correspondence with the Governor General.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. Anderson to Mr. Hastings, dated Scindia's Camp, Noonkie Serue, 4th Feb. 1782.

Affairs betwixt Scindia and the Ranah continue in the same state as when I had the honour to write to you my letter of the 29th ultimo. The siege of the small mud fort of Chemuch has since been the only military object of Scindia's attention; it has held out a whole week, and may still hold out some days; and there is in sight of it eight or ten forts, all of them infinitely stronger; so that if Scindia does not alter his plan of operations, his progress is likely to be but very slow; in the mean time the Pindarries are spreading desolation all around us.

Dear Sir, *Noonkeseray*, 13th Feb. 1782.

I have the honour to send you a letter, which you may either receive as a private or public one, as you may think proper.

I have the honour also to send you the translation of a letter which Fofussil Hussen Cawn has received from his Brother at Ghode. It is natural for the Ranah to suggest every thing he can think of to sow jealousies betwixt us and Scindia. I do not therefore pay much credit to the assertions contained in this paper, which is written by his direction.

Scindia's operations go on very slowly; the small fort of Chemuch, which I formerly mentioned to you, surrendered about seven days ago; and he has since been employed in attacking Chenour, which is also a mud fort, but apparently stronger than Chemuch. The villagers, both in Chenour and the neighbouring forts, have made some successful sallies against the parties employed in the siege, and routed a body of horse detached for the purposes of procuring forage, and laying waste the neghbouring country.

I am, &c.

(Signed) D. ANDERSON.

Extract of a Letter from a Mussulman at Ghode, to Fussuzzel Hussen Cawn.

I wrote to you formerly concerning the artifices of the Pattele. To-day the Ranah has received a letter from

Cheyt

Cheyt Sing to this effect: "I am extremely concerned "to see the destruction of your country: though formerly "you were able to encounter the Marattas in the field, "yet if you should now deem it expedient, I will interpose any good offices to effect an accommodation; nay, "I will even bring about an interview: if it is agreeable "to you, let Meer Muzzir Ally be sent to me."

As Cheyt Sing had not before written to the Ranah, it is probable that this has been done at the instance of the Pattele, with a view of drawing from the Ranah an answer, which Scindia might afterwards shew as a voucher to Mr. Anderson. Formerly Ambagee sent a message from Scindia to the Ranah, desiring to know how long he would continue his enmity to him; and assuring him, that if he did not come to terms, he would remain four years in his country, and solicit the assistance of Nudjiff Cawn against him. To-day the Ranah has received a letter from Hirmut Behadre, in which he says, Nudjiff Cawn intends speedily marching to Agra, and that he was to accompany him. From this paragraph it is evident, that either Nudjiff Cawn, in compliance with Scindia's solicitations, is coming to Agra, or that Himmut Behadre, who may be considered as the same with Scindia, has written this of himself, to terrify the Ranah into compliance with the terms demanded of him. In one of the papers of news it is written; "The Pattele's letter has been delivered to "Nudjiff Cawn, and he intends marching in consequence "to Agra." Mahomed Beg Hamdaany, and Meer Munsoor have arrived with troops and guns near Haltere. This measure they have taken apparently to negociate with Buxt Sing, but it indicates a disposition to disturb the Ranah.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. Anderson to Mr. Hastings, dated Scindia's Camp, near Noonkseray, 18th Feb. 1782.

By intelligence received here from Delhi, Nudjiff Cawn is so extremely ill that his life is despaired of: it seems probable, that in the event of his death, Scindia will take advantage of the commotions which must ensue, and embrace an opportunity so favourable for extricating himself out of the embarrassment he is at present under, from the successful resistance of the Ranah. It is said, that he is actually making arrangements in expectation of such an event; and that Amboogee and Daood Beg Cawn are to be left with the artillery and a body of troops to prosecute the war against the Ranah, whilst Scindia himself, with the rest of the army is to march towards Delhi.

Extract

Digitized by Google

Extract of a Letter from Mr. Anderson to Mr. Hastings; dated Scindia's Camp, Nookserai, 26th Feb. 1782.

"Scindia is still employed in the siege of the little mud fort of Chinsur. The guns which were sent for from Bilsal and Ugene, are said to be on the way, and great things are to be done after their arrival: Scindia however, I imagine, sees the inutility of his present undertaking, and waits only for some pretence to change his plan of operations, such as was expected from the dangerous illness of Nudjiff Cawn. The report is, that Nudjiff Cawn is still very ill, but that his recovery is not despaired of.

The Ranah acts with much spirit and resolution: he is unable to oppose Scindia's army in the field, but his people have frequently attacked the foraging parties. In his conversations with Fofuzzel, Hussen Cawn's relation, who is at Ghode, he possesses great hopes of your forgivenness: "Allowing," says he, "that I did receive an engagement "from the Marattas, as I gave none to them, my fault "ought not to be deemed so heinous, that the English, "who have once taken me by the hand, should aban-"don me."—This may be deemed almost a confession.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. Anderson to Mr. Hastings; dated Scindia's Camp, Noonkeeserai, 18th March, 1782.

Scindia is now preparing for a more active scene of warfare; all his women are ordered to prepare to leave the camp, and return to Ougene. The most plausible account which I can procure of the cause of these preparations is as follows:—The Rajah of Jeypore has for some time past been employed in reducing the Makery Wala, who was formerly a tributary subject to his government; and he has now reduced him to such straits that he is obliged to look for foreign assistance. He accordingly sent a person of some rank to Scindia, who arrived in camp about a week ago, and offered to pay Scindia a sum of money if he would march to the support of the Mackery Wala. Scindia had many motives to induce him to pay attention to this proposal; his war against the Ranah was evidently fruitless; his troops were beginning to grow mutinous; and it became necessary either to lead them back to Ougene, or into some country where their long absence from their homes might be rewarded by rich plunder; the sum which was offered (said to be five lacks) was a strong temptation; and, added to all these reasons, the Marattas have long borne resentment against the Rajah of Jeypore, who has screened himself from their exactions, by making himself a tributary, and obtaining the protection of Nudjif Cawn.

Digitized by Google

Scindia, it is said, has therefore given encouragement to the proposals of the Mackery Wala, but waits for more intelligence regarding the death of Nudziff Cawn, which has for some days been currently reported in camp. If that event should really have happened, Scindia will have nothing to deter him from attacking the Rajah of Jeypore; and it is said, that he will then make a sudden march through the Ranah's country, betwixt Ghode and Gualior; and if the negociation which is on foot betwixt them comes to nothing (as I believe it will) he will destroy and lay waste all the country as he passes. He will then march to Kerowly, where it seems the money is to be paid him by the Mackery Wala, and he will afterwards either pursue the war against the Rajah of Jeypore, or march towards Delhy, as circumstances may turn out.

Postscript of a Letter from Mr. Andersen to Mr. Hastings, dated Noonke Sarai, 25th March 1782.

All the women, and great part of the baggage, left the camp this morning for Ougene. The guns which were ordered from Bilsa, and afterwards countermanded, are arrived at Sipperee. I beg leave to refer you to my letter of the 18th, for my ideas of Scindia's views.—If Nudziff Cawn should recover, which seems not probable, Scindia will continue the war against the Rana, and when the guns arrive, will attempt some of his capital forts.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. Anderson to Mr. Hastings; dated Noonkee Serai, 30th March 1782.

There is now a vakeel arrived in camp from the Rajah of Jeypore, it is said that he has offered money to engage Scindia on his side; it seems probable that Scindia will get money, both from him and the Matchery Wala, for his forbearance in their disputes.—He is now so deeply engaged in the war with the Rana, that he can scarcely leave it.—A few days ago Daood Beg Cawn, whom he has appointed Subahdar of this part of the Rana's country, which is known by the name of *Pansh Mehal*, was sent out with a detachment of 4,000 horse and foot.—The Rana, having received intelligence of his motions, sent two of his battalions under Kesery Sing and Madoo Ram, who came unexpectedly on Daood Beg's camp in the night, made great havock, and having put the whole detachment to flight, possessed themselves of their effects and baggage.—Daood Beg escaped himself, with five or six horsemen, to a small fort about ten miles from his camp. This disaster has thrown every body into great consternation; and Scindia is so much irritated against the Rana, that the war is now

no

Digitized by Google

no longer a matter of intereſt and policy, but of paſſion and reſentment.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. Anderſon to Mr. Haſtings; Scindia's Camp, Selby, 23d April 1782.

I have the honour to ſend you an extract of a letter from the Rana to me, in which he ſpeaks of the probability of his entering into ſome new alliance. Tofuzzel Huſſen Cawn's relation at Ghode writes, that the Ranah had mentioned to him his expectations of aſſiſtance from Mahd. Beg Humaanne, one of the late Nudjuff Cawn's Generals, who is now near Agrah with a conſiderable force.—If this be the alliance to which the Ranah alludes, the great caution he has uſed in mentioning it to me, ſeemed ſcarcely neceſſary. Some overtures I know were lately made to him by a banker, named Pittumber Daſs, which, though they paſſed through ſeveral channels, were in fact from Scindia. But the terms propoſed were ſaid to be ſuch, as I am convinced the Ranah would not agree to.—In the mean time Scindia continues to carry on the ſiege of Salbey, though with little proſpect of immediate ſucceſs.

Extract of a Letter from Anderſon to Mr. Haſtings; dated Scindia's Camp, before Salbey, 11th May 1782.

It is almoſt impoſſible to form an opinion regarding Scindia's preſent views. His aſſiſtance, it is ſaid, has been ſolicited by the King, by the Rajah of Jeypore, by the Macherey Walah, and by Rungeeh Sing, the Chief of the Jaats. To all of them, I believe, he has given general aſſurances, and I underſtand that he has poſitively engaged to ſend a body of troops to the aſſiſtance of the Machery Walah; in the mean time he continues embarraſſed with his war againſt the Ranah. The fort of Salbey is well ſupplied with ſtores and proviſions, and may hold out a long ſiege. The Ranah ſeems nowiſe deſirous of coming to an accommodation on the terms that have been propoſed. The rains are faſt approaching. The troops are diſcontented and clamorous for their arrears of pay. The Nangahs, who were the moſt formidable corps of the whole army, after mutinying ſeveral times, went away about eight days ago in a body.—Proviſions are already very ſcarce, and will daily be more ſo. On the whole, therefore, though Scindia talks much of moving towards Delhy, I am inclined to think, that it is more likely that his firſt movement will be towards Ougene.

Digitized by Google

Extract of Letter from Mr. David Anderson to the Governor General; dated Maratta Camp, Sonaree, in the Sinds, 18th June 1782.

The Ranah lately applied to me, through Mr. Sangster, to mediate an accommodation between him and Scindia. I replied, that I had no authority from you to interfere.—I apprehend you will not think it necessary to issue any new orders to me on this subject.—It would now be impossible to settle matters by an amicable mediation betwixt Scindia and the Ranah, on the footing of Colonel Muir's treaty, as the former would not consent to relinquish the forts and districts of Panja Mahal, which he has with so much labour and expence subdued; and if a peace were to take place betwixt them, under our mediation, it might only lead us into future perplexities; for as both parties are actuated in their desire of our accommodation rather by a sense of their temporary political necessities than by a sincere and cordial disposition for peace, it is not to be expected that any agreement which might under such circumstances be concluded betwixt them would prove of long duration.

Extract of Letter from Mr. David Anderson to the Governor General; dated Scindia's Camp, 22d June 1782.

I have this evening, since I began this letter, received a message from Scindia, informing me that he has heard from Bow Buxey the particulars of our conversation; that he is extremely pleased with the arrival of the treaty and Sunnud; that any inaccuracies which may be in the latter are of no great consequence, as he and I may concert the form of a Sunnud, which may be sent to you for approbation; that with respect to the measures necessary to be taken for the performance of the treaty, he himself was desirous only of remaining in this part of the country until the arrival of the ratification from Poonah; that afterwards it was his wish, and the desire of the minister had repeatedly been signified to the same purpose, that he and I should proceed together to Poonah; but he observed, that in the uncertain state of affairs betwixt him and the Ranah, he did not know whether it would be in his power to leave this part of the country so soon; and in that case he thought it would be most expedient that a gentleman should be deputed from you, who might go accompanied by a person of rank from him to Poonah as soon as the ratification arrives. The person who delivered this message mentioned, that it was the intention of some of the Pattele's Council to recommend to him, that in case an accommodation with the Ranah did not take place, to apply to the English Government to assist him with a body of troops, who might act in conjunction

Digitized by Google

conjunction with some of his own, in compelling the Ranah to accept of his terms, and he himself in the mean time be at liberty to proceed to Poonah. As this was declared not to be a part of the Pattelah's message, I paid little attention to it, rather discouraging it than otherwise.

Extract of Letter from Mr. David Anderson to the Governor General; dated Marattah Camp, Chanapore, 24th June 1782.

The Pattele's messenger returned to me this morning—he said, that his master was under great embarrassment with respect to the Ranah; that he was extremely desirous of moving towards Poonah; but that he could not leave matters in their present state, neither did he see any prospect of bringing them to a speedy conclusion; for if he were to invest Ghode, a very long time would be necessary to reduce it. The Patele desired him therefore to mention his difficulties to me; and he hoped that our interference would bring the Ranah to reason. He was extremely anxious to recover Gaulear, and thereby wipe away the disgrace which the Marattas had incurred from the loss of it; and that, as we had now their honour at heart, he hoped we would enter into their views. He would consent to give the Ranah in exchange a district of three or four lacks of rupees, or any other compensation which he might dictate. He did not doubt, he said, but the Ranah would submit to whatever we might prescribe; but if he did not, he hoped we would assist him with one, or two, or three battalions of sepoys, who might prosecute the war, in concert with a detachment of his army, whilst he himself might be at liberty to proceed to Poonah.

It now became necessary to answer seriously. I desired the messenger to inform the Patele, that at the time when he commenced hostilities against the Ranah, and he laid before me some proofs of the Ranah's perfidy towards our Government, I had declared I would not interfere in their disputes; that I had then communicated all these circumstances to you, and you had approved of my conduct; that I had since received no other instructions to serve for my guidance, and I had therefore uniformly persevered in the same line of conduct, although several applications had been made to me by the Ranah. I remarked to the messenger, that I had once promised to the Patele, that on every matter, in which the affairs of our Government and his were anywise connected, if I was unacquainted with your sentiments I would freely communicate to him my own, so that he might partly judge of the expediency of pursuing, or of dropping his designs; and I said, that I would not hesitate

to perform my promiſe on the preſent occaſion. I obſerved, that although the Ranah had little merited any regard from us, and the Patele had deſerved every proof of attachment that we could poſſibly ſhew him, yet in the preſent inſtance I did not think the Engliſh Government could with propriety authorize me to change the line of conduct which I had adopted. With what juſtice could we, in the courſe of our mediation, propoſe to the Ranah that he ſhould reſtore Gualear? Might he not tell us, that we had guaranteed it to him in our own treaty of alliance, and that Scindia himſelf had joined with us in confirming it to him by the treaty of Colonel Muir? If we were to ſay, that he had forfeited our guarantee by his treachery, he would probably reply, that he had entered into no actual engagements to our prejudice; and that, admitting his conduct to have been culpable, whatever he had done had happened previous to Colonel Muir's treaty, and being known to that gentleman at the time when the treaty was concluded, was therefore virtually forgiven, or at leaſt ought not to invalidate any of the ſtipulations contained in that treaty. I obſerved therefore to the meſſenger, that I did not think the Ranah would accede to a propoſition which, coming from us, would appear ſo unjuſt; and in that event, what were we to do? His conduct to us had certainly been ſuch as did not entitle him to our interference to prevent the puniſhment which he had lately met with; but I doubted whether, with the arguments which the Ranah could adduce, we ſhould be juſtifiable in taking a hoſtile part againſt him. I concluded with repeating that theſe were only my own private ſentiments, that the Patele might weigh them fully in his mind, and that I would either addreſs you on the ſubject or not, as he might afterwards think proper.

To the arguments which I uſed with the Patele's meſſenger, I might have added, that I did not think the Engliſh troops, even united with the Marattas, could again reduce Gualear with the ſame facility as formerly; but as the Patele thinks otherwiſe, I would not diminiſh the high opinion which I with pleaſure obſerve is entertained by him and every Maratta of the irreſiſtable military abilities of the Engliſh in ſieges, as well as in the operation of the field. In point of policy I believe it ought not to be our wiſh that the Marattas ſhould ever recover the fortreſs of Gualear. It forms an important barrier to our own poſſeſſions. In the hands of the Ranah it can be of no prejudice to us; and, notwithſtanding the preſent proſpect of a permanent peace betwixt us and the Marattas, it ſeems highly expedient, that there ſhould always remain ſome ſtrong barrier

to

Digitized by Google

to ſeparate us on this ſide of India from that warlike and powerful nation.

I have thus taken the liberty of ſubmitting to you my ſentiments on this ſubject, though it is poſſible that you may never hear more of it, as I hope that Scindia will be diſcouraged by what I have ſaid, from deſiring me to addreſs you in his name, and probably he will be induced to patch up an accommodation with the Ranah without our interference.

Extract of Letter from David Anderſon to the Governor General; dated Scindia's Camp, in the Datteah Country, 29th June 1782.

I waited on Mahajee Scindia yeſterday morning, and delivered to him your two letters, which were read over and explained to him. No other buſineſs paſſed at this conference. I had previouſly received a meſſage from Bow Buxey, informing me, that Scindia had conſidered the anſwers which I have ſent him regarding the Ranah, and ſeemed to have dropped his intention of ſoliciting our interference; it was therefore deſired, that I would not mention the ſubject, unleſs he himſelf ſhould firſt begin it.

Extract of Letter from David Anderſon to the Governor General; dated Scindia's Camp. Himut Gur, 1ſt Auguſt 1782.

Scindia has reſolved not to attempt the ſiege of Himut Gur. He is preparing to paſs the gauts this morning, and will march afterwards to Moorabad. The Ranah is in expectation of a reinforcement from Mahomed Beg Humdany. He has lately aſſumed a bolder tone than uſual, and talks of trying his ſtrength in the field.

Extract of Letter from Mr. David Anderſon to the Governor General; dated Scindia's Camp, 8 *Auguſt* 1782.

We have been encamped here for ſome days. Ambagee is employed in reducing ſome forts of Sikerwarry, to the weſtward, which a ſhort time will enable him to effect. All the forts in Punjemehal, except Himut Gur, (which was deemed impracticable,) are in the hands of Scindia. The territories and ſtrong holds of Cutchwagar were ſome time ago delivered over to Gungadin, the Maratta Aumil of Calpee, who, though acting under Scindia, has all along, with his permiſſion, kept up a friendſhip with the Ranah—a policy very frequently practiſed among the Marattas. All the troops which were under the command of Bow Buxey in Cutchwagar, and the diſtricts to the northward, in the neigh-

Digitized by Google

neighbourhood of Bhind, have been recalled, and have joined the main army. They had ſeveral times been ſurprized and routed by the Ranah's battalions. Though the Ranah has a conſiderable force, he has not thought it prudent to oppoſe the main body of Scindia's army, whilſt it keeps at a diſtance from Ghode and Gaulear; and Scindia has not thought it adviſeable to approach near: but as all the diſtant parts of the Ranah's country on this ſide is now moſtly reduced, Scindia muſt ſoon either change his plan of conduct, or the war muſt be at a ſtand. The eyes of both parties are turned towards Mahomed Beg Humdanny, who is lying, with a conſiderable army, near Agra, and whoſe aſſiſtance has long been expected by the Ranah.

Extract of a Letter from David Anderſon to the Governor General; dated Scindia's Camp, 22 September 1782.

There is another ſtrong objection to my remaining with Scindia, which may not have occurred to you. My preſence is, I believe, of great uſe to him in advancing his projects againſt the Ranah. The neighbouring Rajahs are taught to expect that the Engliſh may aſſiſt him in the war, and none of them, except the Rajahs of Datteah and Badoureah, have ventured to declare in favour of the Ranah; this is not merely a ſpeculative opinion, the Ranah has himſelf once or twice complained of it.

Extract of Letter from Mr. David Anderſon to the Governor General; dated Scindia's Camp, Mutowlee, 27 October 1782.

The war with the Ranah goes on as uſual. The Ranah's General has encamped with a few battalions, about two miles on this ſide of Gualiar; an action has long been expected, but nothing has paſſed but ſkirmiſhes with Scindia's foraging parties; ſome ſmall forts betwixt this place and Gualia are ſtill in the Ranah's hands. Scindia is making new levies of men, and the Ranah is in expectation of reinforcements from the Bundylicund Rajah. At preſent his only ally is the Rajah of Dalteah, a ſmall body of whoſe troops are now at Gualia.

Extract of Letter from Mr. David Anderſon to the Governor General; dated Scindia's Camp, Khetowly, 3 Coſs of Ghode, 24th November 1782.

I found that reports were circulated in this camp (propagated, I believe, originally from Gualear) of there being a large body of Engliſh troops on their march towards this ſide

ſide of the Jumna, in order to ſupport the Ranah; and I was apprehenſive leſt theſe reports, being frequently reiterated, might at length make an impreſſion on Scindia, excite ſuſpicion and diſtruſt in his mind, and tend to diminiſh his good inclinations towards our Government. I took an opportunity, therefore, of mentioning the ſubject to one of his people, who is ſtationed with me as a vakeel. I read to him a paper of news I had juſt received from Lucknow; in which, under the article of Gualiar intelligence, there was a ſpeech of the Ranah's recited, encouraging his officers with expectations of his being ſpeedily joined by a body of Engliſh troops. I told the vakeel that I had before heard that many looſe rumours of the ſame nature, and alſo of Scindia's intentions againſt us, were ſpread amongſt the lower orders of people, even in this camp; that I had hitherto taken no notice of them, being convinced that the friendſhip betwixt Scindia and the Engliſh was too firmly eſtabliſhed to be affected by vague reports; but that, if he thought Scindia paid any regard to them, I would readily give him ſuch aſſurances as ſhould be ſatisfactory, though, after the knowledge we had acquired of the ſentiments of each other, I could not ſuppoſe that any were neceſſary. The vakeel deſired my permiſſion to mention what I had ſaid to his maſter. I gave it without heſitation, and added ſome farther profeſſions of friendſhip. The next day the vakeel returned to me, and informed me, in Scindia's name, that he alſo had heard the ſame reports, and had often had it in his mind to mention them to me, but had always been deterred by his unwillingneſs even to ſeem to pay the ſmalleſt attention to them. That the aſſurances I had ſent him, however, gave him much pleaſure; that he perfectly relied on *our* friendſhip, and in return aſſured me of *his* towards us.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. David Anderſon, to Colonel James Morgan at Cawnpore; dated Scindia's Camp, 17th November 1782.

Scindia, after reducing moſt of the Ranah's territories to the South-eaſt and Weſt of Gualiar, paſſed lately betwixt that fortreſs and Ghode, and is now encamped with the main body of his army at this place, where he is employed in reducing ſome of the neighbouring little forts. The Pindaries were for ſome time allowed to ravage the territories of the Rajah of Badouria. A conſiderable detachment is advanced as far as Mahgawan, and the main body, it is ſaid, is held in readineſs to proceed to Bind, or perhaps to Attere, which is the uſual reſidence of the Rajah. The object of theſe operations is apparently to detach the Rajah of Badouria

dia from the alliance of the Ranah of Gohud, and compel him to pay the Maratta's tribute as formerly, and also to open a communication with the Cutchwager district, which lies to the eastward of Bind, and is in possession of the Maratta Government. The Rajah of Badomia has within these few days sent a vakeel to Scindia, and, as I am informed, the Pindaries have been again withdrawn from his country. I imagine some accommodation is likely to take place betwixt them, in which case Scindia will be enabled to carry on his operations against the Ranah, with a greater certainty of receiving regular supply of grain.

It was long expected that the Ranah would have made some attempt to oppose Scindia's progress in the field, more especially after he was joined by a small detachment, sent to his assistance by the Rajah of Duttia. Nothing however has happened, except a few skirmishes with Scindia's foraging parties of horse, in which, although the Ranah's troops have generally had the superiority; yet, being entirely composed of foot, they have never been able to pursue their advantage to any effect. Every idea of opposition in the field seems now at an end. Most of the Ranah's tributaries, finding that their master was unable to protect them from the ravages of the Marattas, have made their terms with Scindia, and the Ranah himself has retired in Gwaliar, and left the defence of Gohud to his Dewan and Mr. Sangster. His situation however is still far from being desperate; besides several smaller forts, he still retains possession of Gwaliar, Ghode, Bhite, Hemetgur, and Diogur. Some of these may be deemed impregnable, all of them are capable of holding out a long siege against a Maratta army; and if the numerous force with which he is at present overpowered was once to be withdrawn, the Ranah would probably be able to recover in a very short time the whole, or a great part of these territories which Scindia has been near twelve months in reducing.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. David Anderson to Colonel James Morgan; dated Scindia's Camp, Kettowly, 21st November, 1782.

Near 3,000 horse, which had been employed at Assurgur, in the neighbourhood of Boorhanpoor, joined the army about a month ago; their service since the surrender of Assurgur being no longer necessary at that place.

Five guns, two of them of an enormous size, which Scindia sent for from Ougene and Bilsah, are now on the way to camp. It is said they are near Seronge, and are escorted by 3 or 4000 horse.

Scindia has been lately making new levies, and, as far as I can

Digitized by Google

I can learn, has collected about 8 or 900 raw Nidjibs and Benkadares: some of them are already enrolled in his pay, others only receive a small daily allowance for their support.

He has lately withdrawn some of the troops that were stationed in the reduced forts, and left the defence of these places to the zemindars who had apparently submitted to his authority. The consequence of this has been, that some of the distant zemindars have again acknowledged the authority of the Ranah, whose troops they have re-admitted into their strong holds.

These are all the reinforcements that have been lately added to this army, and all, I believe, that are really expected. I have heard the report of Tuccojie's coming from Poonah with 40,000 horse; but I pay little credit to it at present. Reports of the same kind have been renewed almost every month, ever since my arrival in this camp; and I believe they are propagated chiefly with a view of intimidating the Ranah and the neighbouring powers. Scindia and Holkar are not, I believe, on the most friendly terms. If I should hereafter learn any particulars tending either to confirm or invalidate this report, I will not fail to communicate them to you.

This army is very large, but is in fact far from strong. The number of Pindaries and disorderly followers exceed in a great proportion the number of soldiers. It is at present very ill supplied with ammunition, and all kinds of warlike stores, and, upon the whole, it is rather adapted to the purposes of harrassing and devastation, than calculated to oppose regular troops in the field.

If I may venture to form any opinion regarding his present plan of operations, I should imagine that it is his intention to employ himself in the reduction of some small forts in the districts round Ghode, until the arrival of the guns I have before mentioned, and also of some supplies of powder that are said to be expected from Shansey and Cottabundy; after which I think he will probably undertake the siege of Ghode; and if it is properly defended, it will doubtless employ him for some months.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. David Anderson to Mr. Hastings; dated Scindia's Camp, 19th March 1783.

Bhow Bucksey yesterday brought me a message from Mahajee Scindia, requesting that I would apply to you to assist him in bringing the war against the Ranah to a conclusion. He desires that I will represent to you the present state of affairs:—That he has reduced the greatest part of the Ranah's country, but that Ghode and Gwaliar still hold out.

He

He wishes, therefore, to be assisted by three or four of our battalions, so that he may not be too long detained from pursuing the plans which he has in agitation in the Deccan.—In case this is granted, he says, that on the reduction of these two places he will pay to the Company the amount which is due from the Ranah; and he wishes, for this purpose, that you will send the accounts of the Company's claim, and authorize me to settle it.

I have stated this request, because I could not well avoid it. I have discouraged it, however, to the utmost of my power; and indeed I have plainly told Scindia that I should represent it to you, since he had desired me, but that I had no expectation of your granting it. The letters which I had the honour to address to you in June last will give you a general idea of the arguments which passed on this occasion. As to our claim against the Ranah, I have assured him that it will have very little weight in your resolutions on this subject. If I could imagine that Scindia was seriously desirous of proceeding to the Deccan, or if I could perceive any appearance of moderation in his views regarding the Ranah, I might regret the delays which he is likely to meet with in this quarter, and might wish to have some powers to endeavour to bring matters to a conclusion, by mediating an accommodation betwixt them. But I am very doubtful of Scindia's real intentions. I believe they are turned rather to the disputes about Delhy, than to our affairs in the Deckan. And in every negociation which has passed betwixt him and the Ranah, the recovery of Gwalear has been stated as an indispensable condition.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. David Anderson to Mr. Hastings; dated Camp, Bhet, 27th March 1783.

Scindia has lately reduced Bhet and Chittergdar, which are two strong fortresses, situated within a few hundred yards of one another. These sieges were both bloody, but very short. The resistance of the garrison was by no means proportionate to the strength of their fortifications. A vast quantity of stores and grain has fallen into Scindia's hands. He seems now to be at a stand; and it is yet uncertain whether his next operations will be against Deoguar or Ghode. The interval is employed in some negociations with the Rajah of Datteah, who is soon expected in camp.

After I had written to you, by Scindia's desire, communicating to you his request of assistance against the Ranah, Bow Buckscy came to me again, and said, that he had omitted to state one argument which Scindia had used in favour of his request, which was, that if a part of our forces

Digitized by Google

forces was with him, it would be manifest to the whole world that the views of the English and of the Marattas were the same, and no other power would afterwards attempt to dissolve their union, or presume to give offence to either of them. I mention this argument in compliance with his express desire.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 21st April 1783.

The Governor General lays before the Board the following translation of a paper delivered to him by Kessur Sing, the vackeel of the Ranah of Gohud, with other letters and papers, which he will lay before the Board as soon as translated. In the mean time he thinks it necessary to mention the arrival of Kessur Sing, accompanied by another person, as ministers or vackeels of the Ranah.

The vackeels from the Ranah of Gohud have delivered in a narrative of his conduct, from the arrival of Major Popham at Gohud to the conclusion of the peace with Scindia, shewing that the deficiencies imputed to the Ranah originated in mutual jealousies and differences of opinion between him and the commanders in succession of the English detachment. This paper is intended as a justification of the Ranah's conduct, unsatisfactory and insufficient.

The present object of the Ranah is to obtain the assistance of a military force from this Government, to repel the invasion of Scindia; and for such assistance he offers an annual Nuzzuranch of four lacks of rupees, and the payment of the Nuzzuranch to take place from the arrival of the said military force at Gowhund; and the accounts of arrears due to Major Popham's detachment, from the Ranah's 31,000 rupees, and the Company's share of the revenues of Cummaur to be adjusted and cleared off at the same period. As Scindia's object in the present invasion is to obtain the possession of Gualiar, in case the Government finds itself obliged to refuse the aid required, the Ranah offers to deliver up the fort of Gualiar to the English, for the double purpose of proving his attachment to and confidence in this Government, and to frustrate the views of the enemy upon it. He moreover offers to pay to Government two lacks per ann. for the expences of the English garrison.

In case this Government not only refuses this military aid, but declines to take possession of Gualiar, as abovementioned, he requests their interposition between him and Scindia, that they will settle and guarantee a solid peace between them; in the execution which, if the Governor should deem it necessary to deliver up Gualiar to Scindia, he will consent thereto, on condition that he may be secured

Digitized by Google

cured in the undisturbed possession of his Rauje, and the countries in his possession, at the time when Major Popham and Colonels Camac and Muir arrived at Gowhund, and that this Government will engage to protect him therein. In consideration of which he offers a Nuzzuranch of two lacks of rupees annually. The Governor General by no means wishes to recommend any connection with the Ranah of Goad; but if the members of the Board see no objection to it, he has none, to desire Mr. Anderson to sound Madajee Scindia upon the subject of a pacification with the Ranah, through the mediation of this Government.

Agreed, that the following letter be accordingly written to Mr. Anderson:

SIR,

A vakeel is arrived here from the Ranah of Goad, who appears very solicitous to obtain the friendly mediation of this Government, in order to bring about a re-establishment of peace betwixt Madajee Scindia and him. We desire that you will sound the former on this subject, in such manner to avoid exciting the least idea of jealousy or distrust in his mind; and if he shall seem to be inclined to a pacification, you may inform him, that we shall be very happy to be made the instruments of effecting it.

Fort William, We are, &c. &c.
21st April 1783.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 12th May 1783.

Extract of Letter from Mr. Anderson to the Governor General; dated the 12th April 1783.

Scindia has commenced the siege of Gualiar; three batteries are opened against it. The forces returned from the fort by only one or two pieces of cannon. From the extraordinary drought of the season many of the tanks are dried up, and the garrison begins to feel a want of water. It is said, though I know not with what truth, that Scindia is tampering with some of the officers within the walls. A negociation has lately been opened with the Ranah himself, through the mediation of Hemut Behadur. From all these circumstances, there is a possibility that Scindia will, either by one way or another, get possession of the fort of Gualiar.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 29th May.

Extract of Letter from Mr. Anderson to the Governor General and Council; dated Camp before Gualear, 8th May 1783.

I have received the honourable Board's letter of the 21st ultimo,

ultimo, and ſhall take the earlieſt opportunity of ſounding Scindia's inclinations on the ſubject of it.

Extract of Bengal Select Conſultations, the 16th June 1783.

Extract of Letter from Mr. Anderſon to the Governor General; dated Camp before Gaulear, 20th May 1783.

On the 14th inſtant I had a conference with Bow Buckſey, regarding the Ranah of Ghode, as it appeared that Scindia was impatient at the length of the war, I deſired Bow Buckſey to ſound his real ſentiments, and if he found he was inclined to pacification, to mention that the Engliſh Government offered their mediation. On the 15th he returned to me, and ſaid, that he had not found an opportunity of ſpeaking on the ſubject to Scindia; but he remarked, that before Scindia could form any reſolution about a pacification, he would naturally wiſh to receive an anſwer to the application which he had formerly made through me to you, for aſſiſtance in carrying on the war. He aſked, whether the letters which I had received from the Board was previous or ſubſequent to your receiving his application: I replied, that I ſuppoſed it was ſubſequent. He talked much of the Ranah's arrogance, in the negociation carried on through Henuct Bahadur, of his villany in applying for aſſiſtance to the ſucceſſors of Nudzeff Cawn, to the Engliſh Government, and even to Tuccajee Holcar, and other chiefs at Poonah, and of Scindia's determination to puniſh him, and reduce him to his priſtine ſtate of a petty zemindar. He endeavoured to put an appearance of condeſcenſion on any meaſures which Scindia might take in conſequence of what I had ſaid to him, and ſeemed to expect, in return, that attention would be paid to his requeſts in favour of Chyte Sing. Here I thought it neceſſary to ſet the matter in a clear light. I informed him, that what I had ſaid proceeded from your thinking, that by your interpoſing with your good offices, you might render a very acceptable ſervice to Scindia; that it was not my intention to defend the Ranah's conduct; and ſo far was it from your meaning to intercede in his favour, that I only deſired him to ſound Scindia's ſentiments, and in caſe he was deſirous of peace, to mention what I had ſaid, but if he ſeemed to prefer carrying on the war, I begged that he would not mention a ſyllable of what had paſſed, but let the matter drop entirely. As to Chyte Sing, I ſaid, I thought that he was ſufficiently informed of my ſentiments; and I thought alſo, that he had engaged not to reſume the ſubject. Bow Buckſey ſoon after took his leave, promiſing to do as I deſired. I have not ſeen him ſince.

Digitized by Google

The

The fact is, that Scindia has been led into an undertaking, in which he finds that he makes little or no progress. It is said, that he was allured into the siege of Gualear by the contrivance of the Ranah himself, and I think it is far from being improbable: that he wishes to be relieved from his present embarrassment, is certain; but I much doubt if he will ever agree to any terms that the Ranah can accept. The Ranah, on the other hand, I am told, has no faith in the Marattas, and has repeatedly declared, that he will accept of no terms, except under the mediation and guarantee of the English.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 18th August 1783.

The Governor General lays before the Board the following Letter from Mr. Anderson.

SIR,

The important fortress of Gualior is now in the possession of Mahajee Scindia. The treachery of a part of the garrison procured an easy admittance to a select body of Marattas; when they had gained the head of the breach, about two hours before day-light this morning, a signal was given of their success, and they were soon supported by vast numbers, who flocked from all quarters of the camp. The remainder of the garrison, who still adhered to the Ranny, were compelled to retire to the apartments of the palace, where they made a desperate resistance, which was fatal to themselves, and to numbers of the Marattas. It is said that the Ranny blew herself up with gunpowder, and that the body of Rajedar, the commandant, has been found covered with wounds.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Gualior, (Signed) D. ANDERSON.
31st July 1783, 8 A. M.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 15th September 1783.

Extract of Letter from Mr. Anderson to the Governor General, dated 25th August 1783.

Mr. Sangster returned to Gohde on the 21st instant. He paid my brother a visit the evening before his departure, and it appeared, from his conversation, that his attempt to set on foot a negociation between Scindia and the Ranah, to which his commission was limited, had been entirely fruitless. He is of opinion, that the Ranah has the means of holding out near fourteen months in Ghode, being abundantly supplied with ammunition of all kinds, and having

nearly

Digitized by Google

nearly 8000 Jauts in his service, on whose bravery and fidelity he chiefly depends: the apprehension of so considerable a delay might possibly have some influence on Scindia in inducing him to grant terms to the Ranah; but besides the deep-rooted hatred he bears in his mind towards him, he is impressed with so strong an opinion of his perfidy, that he could have no dependance on his adherence to any agreement he might make with him, and he is sensible that nothing but his utter extermination can possibly ensure to him the quiet possession in future of the conquests he has already made. There is also reason to believe, that he is not without hopes, founded on the general discontent of the people in Gohde from the great arrears of pay due to them, of sowing distrust and dissensions amongst them, which he may turn to his advantage, and to which the example of treachery already shewn by the Ranah's friends at Gualior may greatly contribute.

Mr. Sangster, before he left this camp, gave assurances to Scindia, that on his return to Gohde he would immediately resign the service of the Ranah; and though, on account of his family being forcibly detained in Gohde by the Jauts, he could not promise to quit the place, yet he declared he would in no manner assist in the defence of it. I have mentioned this circumstance, because I think it may have some weight in accelerating the fate of the Ranah, as I understand that the few regular troops now in his service are chiefly kept together by their reliance on Mr. Sangster.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 22d September 1783.

Mr. Stables.—I agree that Lieutenant James Anderson be appointed to succeed to his brother's place with Moodajee Scindia for the present, and that Mr. D. Anderson has leave to go where he pleases for the benefit of his health, without a moment's delay. I am alarmed at an expression in Lieutenant Anderson's last letter, and think that we should exert the influence of this Government with Madajee Scindia, to grant honourable terms to the Rana of Gohaud, at least for the safety of his family and person.

Mr. Macpherson having assented to the Governor General's proposition, it was agreed that Mr. D. Anderson should have leave to repair to the Presidency, or to repair to any other place, for the benefit of his health, which might be more adviseable, and Lieutenant James Anderson, for the present, be appointed to succeed to his brother's station, notice was accordingly sent by the Secretary to them, and by the Governor General to Madajee Scindia.—The Governor General informs the Board that he will write to

Lieutenant James Anderson in favour of the Rana of Gohud, and lay his letter before the Board.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 29th September 1783.

Extract of Letter from Mr. Anderson to the Governor General and Council, dated 13th September 1783.

Scindia still remains encamped at Gualier. A vackeel from the Ranah is at present with him, but I have not heard if any progress has been made towards an amicable adjustment.

Extract of Secret Letter from Bengal, dated the 20th October 1783.

Par. 59. Madajee Scindia having persisted in his attack upon the fort of Gualior with unremitted perseverance, sprung a mine, by which he made a practicable breach; and being assisted by the treachery of the Cutwall, took it by storm on the first of August.

60. Independent of any view to the acquisition of territory, Madajee Scindia has manifested great personal enmity against the Rana of Gohud. A vackeel from the Rana arrived here in April last, with proposals for the interposition and guarantee of this Government to effect and secure a peace between him and Scindia. Although the Rana had forfeited every claim to our support or good will, by the treachery of his former conduct, yet on principles of policy and humanity we recommended it to Mr. Anderson to use his interposition, if Scindia was likely to be influenced by it, to grant him a peace. Mr. Anderson however met with no success in his attempts to urge such a wish, before the fall of Gualior; and since that event, his brother writes, that Scindia had declared his intention to prosecute the war to the extermination of the Rana, assigning as a reason, that he had broke his faith so often, that he was not to be trusted. We thought this a fit occasion to express our interposition more directly to Scindia, and therefore directed Mr. Anderson to apply to him in our name, requesting that he would carry his resentment no farther against the Rana; in which case we would become guarantee for the Rana's faithful observance of any agreement which might be concluded between them.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 21st October 1783.

The Governor General not recollecting his intentions, as signified to the Board on the 22d September last, neg-

Digitized by Google

lected to write a formal letter to Lieutenant James Anderson in favour of the Ranah of Ghode; in a private letter, however, to Mr. David Anderson, he pointed out to him the measures which he would recommend for an accommodation of the disputes between the Ranah and Madajee Scindia, and now lays before the Board an extract of that part of the letter which relates to this subject.

Extract of a Letter from the Governor General to Mr. David Anderson, dated 24th September 1783.

Though the Ranah's perfidy has been strongly exemplified in his conduct to our Government, and I myself rejoice at every instance of a traitor suffering the punishment of his treachery, and deriving it from the influence of his character, yet I must again desire you to offer our mediation and intercession on his behalf. Let Scindia accept our pledge for his good behaviour, and if the Ranah shall afterwards break his engagements, we will declare him equally the enemy of our Government as his, and consider ourselves at liberty to act hostilely against him. An engagement to act hostilely may not suit the state of our own affairs perhaps, or the disposition of the members of this Government, and I do not like to make an engagement which I think others may refuse to abide by; yet I think this kind of guarantee will satisfy Scindia, and he will not want our assistance to crush so fallen an enemy. If the Ranah shall take the advantage of his absence to renew his hostilities, in that case we ought, on requisition, to invade the dominions of the Ranah, and that may be made a specific condition of our guarantee. I wish that the affairs of Poona may call Scindia to that quarter, of which there seems to be a prospect from the paper enclosed in your last; I have no doubt that his presence will soon restore his power there, and promote the designs which are most consonant to our views.

The Governor General lays before the Board the following letter and enclosures which he has received from Mr. Anderson.

Dear Sir,

As you will probably be desirous of knowing every particular circumstance of the reduction of Gualear, I beg leave to send you a full detail of all the events of the last three days. It is drawn out by my ordinary news writer, but in consequence of my express injunctions, and of course with more than usual accuracy and care. As the circumstances related in this detail are mostly of a public nature, and

Digitized by Google

and form the subject of every conversation, it will, I dare say, prove very exact and just; and I may add, that though I cannot vouch for the truth of every particular, yet there is nothing in it which I can at present contradict. The only addition which I think necessary to make to it, is an account of some of the principal characters, without which the detail would perhaps appear incomplete.

The general opinion is, that Scindia will send a part of his army to blockade the Ranah in Ghode, but will not move from the place himself until the season is more favourable for beginning a regular siege.

I have the honour to be, &c. &c.

Gualear, (Signed) D. ANDERSON.
3d August 1783.

P. S. I yesterday paid Scindia a visit of congratulation; I saw it was expected, and it was accordingly received with much satisfaction: nothing else passed. He seemed well pleased, but no wise elated.

A News Paper from the Tent of Mahar Raja Scindia, dated the 1st Ramzam, Thursday, in the Fort of Gualeor.

Yesterday in the middle of the night, Mootamull, the Rotewal of Gualeor, sent a man with the following message to Maho Row, Dewan at Badillghuna, that he and Rajah Gooroo were the same heart and soul, without the least distinction; that accordingly, by their mutual determination, Rajee Goroo was sent, whom it would be proper to introduce to the Maha Rajee, and having conformably to their offers firmly settled the negociation, send speedy intelligence, that no delays or procrastinations ought to be made, because they have to this time faithfully served Raga Ramah Chutter Sing, and were now desirous of attaching themselves to the service of Pectul Sahab; but let the matter be strongly settled, that in future no deviation should happen. The said Dewan, agreeably to the desire of Mootamull, immediately went to the presence of Pectul Sahab, and calling him from his sleep, told him the whole particulars: the Maha Rajah having understood the matter, said, that whatever they should ask should be granted. At the same time he sent for Ranna Jaun Rhye and Mirza Acheem Beg, and the other confidential Chiefs, and held a private consultation with them; and it was determined that whatever Mootamull and Rajah Goroo should say shall be agreed to; accordingly Pectul Sahab called Rajah Gooroo into his presence, and told him the resolution; Rajah Gooroo informed him of all the state of the fort, and the particulars of their offer.

The

Digitized by Google

The Maha Raja, and Raja Gooroo, and all his confidents, having consulted together for four hours, agreed that whatever Rajah Gooroo should say would be agreed to. When Rajah Gooroo mentioned his terms to the Maha Rajah, Pectul Saheb gave the whole in writing, and passed his promise; Madho Ro Dewen then came to Radil Gunah, and got his own troops in readiness, and Pectul Saheb sending for all his Chiefs, gave them orders to be ready, and said to the salars to be immediately prepared with their troops, but to make no noise or bustle. The whole army being then ready, came with the greatest silence into the batteries, and Pectul Saheb himself remaining in his own tent, gave the necessary orders with caution and secrecy, and posted hircarrahs and camels under the Fort to bring intelligence every instant; the whole army remained stationed under the Fort, when four gurries of the night were still left, they marched up towards Oorwajee, where the people of Mootamull's battery were, and at the same moment the people of Kurrum Khan's battalion, and the body guard and the battalion of Monsieur Poofs, a Frenchman, attacked the battery; ten or twelve men first entered the fort, and throwing down ropes, helped all the others up instantly. Two hundred had entered it in less than one gurry, and began to engage. The rest of the Maha Rajah's army surrounded the fort on all sides, and the pioneers quietly threw up defences. The sepoys crept into the fort like ants or locusts, and having discharged their pieces, prepared to maintain themselves. The Kellhadar Rajedhun and Rowany Doss came also with their forces, and begun the attack; the people of the fort were obliged at last to give way, and the people of the Maha Raja, by the blessing of God, and the Maha Raja's good fortune, got possession of the fort by the way of Oorwagee, and Doordapour, and Battillghurr, and advancing to the market place of the fort, began discharging their cannon and rockets, &c. they then drew their swords, and made such use of them, as to cause a river of blood. Rajedhurr, the Kellahdar, and Rowany Doss, and Boozum Sing, the uncle of the Ranna, were killed; and the Rannee, the wife of Raja Ranna Chatter Sing, destroyed herself by an explosion of gunpowder.

Enclosure in Mr. Anderson's Letter.

The Rannee was a daughter of a zemindar of Gujerowce; she was married to the Ranna about eight years ago, and at the time of her death was about eighteen; she was his second wife, and a constant jealousy subsisted between her and the first, who is still living at Ghode, and it

Digitized by Google

it was on this account that she chose to remain in Gualier after the Rannee had left it; she had no children, a report of her pregnancy was lately spread, but not generally believed.

Mootah Mull was a bannyan, who came into this country with Major Popham; he afterwards accompanied Colonel Camac, to whom he was of use in managing his supplies of grain. On this service he made a little money, by means of which he afterwards procured the Fouzdary of the town of Gualier. The Ranna, before he left Gualier, subjected him to a heavy contribution, and obliged him to live with his family in the fort of Gualier. When Scindia begun the siege, he was justly suspected of a secret correspondence, and was confined, but not so strictly as to prevent him from tampering with the people of the garrison, many of whom had been employed under him as peons whilst he was Phousdar: Rajee Gooza was originally a fakeer of a very low rank, and was chosen by the Ranna as his gooroo, and highly favoured; he had some time ago advised the surrender of the fort whilst favourable terms could be procured, and finding himself afterwards suspected by the Commandant of being in the interest of Scindia, he formed a connection with Mootamull, and two or three days before the capture escaped with two or three attendants to Scindia: Boozen Sing is a cousin of the Ranna's

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 10th November 1783.

Extract of Letter from Mr. Anderson to the Governor General and Council, dated the 22d October 1783.

Whilst Scindia therefore continues at this distance, it is difficult to say what reliance can be placed on their complying with his requisitions, or even on their fulfilling the engagements of Nanah, whom they acknowledge as the head of their administration, and I am very doubtful how far you can place a dependance on Scindia's moving speedily toward's Poonah; for whatever his inclinations may be, he has himself acknowledged that he cannot leave the war with the Rana in its present state; and hitherto he has shewn little disposition to terminate it, by agreeing to an accommodation on terms to which the Rana could possibly consent. The city Ghode is capable of holding out a long siege; and Scindia apprehends that whilst it remains in the possession of the Rana, great part of the conquests which have employed him for two years in acquiring, must be subject to danger, the moment he retires from this country.

Digitized by Google

It ſhall be my endeavour to remove theſe apprehenſions, and to facilitate a new negociation; ſo that if Scindia is actually ſo deſirous as he profeſſes, of returning immediately towards the De-Kan, every obſtacle may, as far as poſſible, be obviated.

Extract of Bengal Secret Conſultations, the 16th December, 1783.

Extract of Letter from Mr. Anderſon to the Governor General, dated 25th November 1783.

Scindia has within theſe few days paſt iſſued conſiderable ſums to his batalions, on which conjectures have been founded, and public reports circulated of his intentions of ſpeedily laying ſiege to Gehode. He has himſelf lately made frequent excurſions that way, on pretence of hunting, but in reality, it is ſaid, with a view of reconnoitering the place.

Extract of Secret Letter from Bengal, dated the 15th March, 1784.

P. S. Since the foregoing letter was written, the Governor General has tranſmitted to us two letters from Lieutenant Anderſon, dated the 20th and 25th of laſt month; the latter adviſing, that the Rana of Gohud had on that day ſubmitted to Madajee Scindia. Copies of Lieutenant Anderſon's letters are tranſmitted to you numbers in this diſpatch.

Extract of Bengal Secret Conſultations, the 23d March 1784.

The following letter from the Governor General, and thoſe from Lieutenant Anderſon, which are entered after it, having been received on the 15th inſtant, were immediately circulated; and in conſequence of the directions of the Members of the Board, copies of Lieutenant Anderſon's letters were ſent to the honourable Court of Directors numbers in the Diſpatch *per* Earl of Oxford.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to tranſmit you two letters, which I have received from Mr. James Anderſon, reſpecting the ſubjection of the Raunah and his dominions to Mahajee Scindia.

As it is an event of much importance, I am in hopes that the intelligence of it will arrive in time to be communicated

Digitized by Google

nicated to the Court of Directors by the ships now under dispatch.

How far it will prove in its consequences favourable or otherwise to us, time alone will discover; but my own opinion inclines me to believe, that as long as Mahajee Scindia lives, every accession of territory obtained by him will be an advantage to this Government; and I cannot but feel pleased at the public and merited punishment which a character, marked by such uniform perfidy as that of the Raunah, has not failed to draw upon itself.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed) WARREN HASTINGS.

Bodgepore,
March 7th, 1784.

Dear Sir, Scindia's Camp, 20th Feb. 1784.

Since I had last the honour to address you, under date the 15th, some circumstances have occurred which seem to threaten a speedy destruction to the affairs of the Raunah. Two days ago a body of his sepoys, reported to amount to 200 men, found means to desert with their arms to Scindia; and they were accompanied by an Italian of the name of Miguel, to whom the Raunah had entrusted the command of one of his battalions. Soon after a person named Rurren, a confidential friend, and relation of the Raunah, came to Scindia to treat with him for terms. He proposed, I understand, that the Raunah should in a few days have a meeting with Scindia on the plain, and surrender Ghohud to him, on condition of Scindia's permitting him to retire to the Donab; and it is said that he accompanied this proposition with a declaration on his own part that if the Raunah hereafter should attempt to practise any evasion, he and the other Chiefs belonging to him would immediately quit him, and throw themselves under the protection of Scindia.

In consequence of this event, the whole camp are now filled with expectations of a speedy period being put to their labours. I find it difficult to form any opinion how far these expectations are likely to be answered. There is every reason to think, that if the Raunah has really authorized such a proposal to be made in his behalf, he is not serious; but there is equal reason to imagine, that the clamours of his followers, who feel not the same interest in the prolongation of the contest, will at length compel him to submit. Indeed the present defection is reported to have arisen from a circumstance, to which the general character of the Raunah gives a colour of probability. On

Digitized by Google

the approach of Colonel Charles Morgan's detachment, he contrived to rouse the spirits of his people, by a report that the Colonel had orders to assist him. This report continued to diffuse some degree of spirits amongst them, until the Colonel's army crossed the Jumna, when a conviction of the deceit which had been practised upon them, co-operating with the extreme hardships to which they were exposed, to which they could see no end, sunk them into a despondency that produced the desertion I have mentioned.

None of these circumstances have been communicated to me by Scindia or Bow Bucksey; but as they lead to a probability of a speedy reduction of the whole of the Raunah's country, I have thought it proper to submit them to you on their general notoriety throughout the camp.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed) JAMES ANDERSON.

Dear Sir, Scindia's Camp, 25th Feb. 1784.

The Raunah has at length submitted to Scindia. Last night he deputed a confidential person to inform him, that agreeably to the promise he had made he would this day meet him on the plain. Scindia accordingly made the necessary preparations; and having at noon sent two of his principal officers to conduct him, he went himself, about two o'clock, to a short distance from Ghode, where the Raunah soon after came on horseback, attended by Mr. Sangster and a few horsemen. He delivered a nurzer, and presented a pair of pistols to Scindia, who received them with great respect, putting them to his breast, and after a few common-place compliments, they separated, Scindia returning home, and the Raunah being conducted to some tents that were pitched, on his account, in the encampment. It is settled, I understand, that a respite of a few days shall be granted before he is required to make a formal surrender of Ghode, that proper steps may be taken in the interval to prevent the pillage of the place. I do not hear of any conditions that Scindia has entered into regarding him. His intentions of granting him a jaghire of two or three lacks annually, had often, it is said, been declared to the Raunah, in case of his surrender; but if, as I imagine, he has obtained no formal engagement to this effect, he may possibly be considered to have forfeited his right to a claim of this nature, in having postponed his submission till compelled to it by necessity. His wishes, it is reported, are, to be put in possession of the fort of Bhet, and part of his ancient territory, equal to the above amount.

Some

Digitized by Google

Some time must necessarily be employed by Scindia in settling this business, so that for these several days I can scarcely hope for any private conference with him, from which I might derive any insight into his future views: as soon, however, as I may learn any thing satisfactory on this head, I shall not fail to give you immediate information. At present the rumours of the camp point variously to his return to the Decan, his prosecution of the war against the tributary Hindoo Rajahs, particularly those of Bundlicund, and his interference in the disputes at Delhi. It is not unlikely that he waits to be guided by circumstances; and that of these three schemes, which seem to be the most natural objects of his choice, he may not positively have determined on any.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed) JAMES ANDERSON.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 13th April 1784.

Scindia's Camp, 4 coss from Ghode,
Dear Sir, 29th February 1784.

Late last night I received a message from Mahajee Scindia, that as he had some communication to make to me, and Bow Bucksey being sick and unable to convey it to me, he requested I would send my moonshy to him. I accordingly dispatched the moonshy immediately, who returned to me soon after, and informed me, that Scindia, after dwelling for a long time on the many instances of perfidy and ingratitude which he had experienced from the Raunah, proceeded then to acquaint him, that the Raunah having some days ago offered to submit to him, provided he would spare his life, he had acceded to this condition, and even promised to give him a decent subsistence; that on his coming out of Ghode, he had at his request deputed his confidential friend, Rauna Cawn Bye, to meet him, and give him his hand as a token of his security; and that he had himself received him with the greatest attention. Notwithstanding this circumstance, he declared that the conduct of the Raunah, since his arrival in camp, had been of the most perfidious nature, and evinced to him the absolute necessity, from a due regard to his own interest, of taking such steps as might put it out of his power to act treacherously. In proof of this assertion he observed, that the Raunah had, at their first meeting, agreed to give Scindia possession, on the ensuing day, of one of the gateways of Ghode, into which a few of his people, with a flag, were to be admitted; and that although the people with the flag had been waiting with the Rauna during the whole day, he had nevertheless con-

trived

Digitized by Google

trived to amuse them, and avoid a compliance. He concluded by observing, that as there was nothing he was more solicitous to preserve than the good opinion of the English, and as he was apprehensive lest the subsequent conduct he might be compelled to adopt with respect to the Raunah might be represented to me through a false medium, he desired that these circumstances might be explained to me; adding his wish that I would give him my opinion on this matter, for which purpose, as it was then late, he would desire Appa Tanteah, an agent of Bow Buxsey, to attend me in the morning.

Appagee Tanteah having accordingly evinced to me this morning, I informed him that I was extremely obliged to Scindia for the communication he had last night been pleased to make to me; and that I considered it as a fresh proof of his friendship to the English. I assured him that our Government, having the most perfect confidence in his good faith, would not hastily adopt any opinion to his prejudice; but as they were no ways concerned in this affair, being a question that related solely to his own Government, I did not think myself competent to give any opinion on the conduct he should pursue. I observed to Appa Tauleah however, merely in a private manner from myself, that I hoped Scindia, after giving so public an assurance of safety to the Rauna, would not hastily adopt any conduct apparently incompatible with it, however justified by circumstances; for their being of a less notorious nature, the uninformed part of the world might draw unfavourable conclusions, to the detriment of his fame, which I knew to be his first object, which indeed would be raised to a high pitch by the moderation he might shew after his success.

Although the flagrant breach of faith, of which the Rauna has been guilty to the English, has deservedly removed him from any claim to our support or protection, yet as you were pleased at two different times to empower my brother to offer to Mahajee Scindia the mediation and guarantee of the English Government, to facilitate an accommodation between them, I should have been glad to have availed myself of any opening which Scindia might have given me, of soliciting the concession of decent terms to the Rauna, on the grounds of favour to the English Government. The present occasion did not appear a fit one: Scindia's communication can scarcely be regarded in any other light than an anticipated justification of rigorous measures, which he is determined to pursue with respect to him; and in this view of the matter I thought it would be improper to have risqued an application of this nature, when

Digitized by Google

I saw so little likelihood of doing it with success. Possibly however it is better that matters are likely to take a different turn; for if Scindia, in deference to the inclinations of the English Government, had exceeded, in his concessions to the Raunah, the point he had himself determined, he would have had a right to have requested our guarantee to the faithful observance of them on the part of the Raunah, a circumstance which might have involved many disagreeable circumstances hereafter.

After all, I shall be happy to find that I am mistaken in the idea I have formed of Scindia's rigorous intentions with respect to the Raunah; but I fear there are many political reasons of a powerful nature, which will operate with him to keep the Raunah in perpetual confinement. His active and enterprising disposition, joined to the attachment which it may be supposed many of the natives will retain for their ancient Chief, must be a perpetual source of disquiet to Scindia in case of the unrestrained liberty of the Raunah.

I have, &c. &c,

(Signed) JAMES ANDERSON,

Extract of a Letter from James Anderson to the Governor General and Council, dated 2d March 1784.

I have the honour to inform you, that Mahajee Scindia was yesterday put in complete possession of the town of Ghode, the Raunah having submitted himself to him on the 25th ultimo, on a general assurance of personal safety, and the promise of a suitable maintenance. The various points which at present, in consequence of this affair, engross the attention of Mahajee Scindia, may for some days prevent my having any private conference with him, from which I expect to derive an insight into his future views; but as soon as I may learn any thing satisfactory on this head, I shall not fail to lay it before you, and in the event of his marching to the Decan.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, 11th May 1784.

Extract of a Letter from the Governor General to the Governor General and Council, the 22d April 1784.

Much has been said of Scindia's duplicity and falsehood, and inferences have from hence been drawn of his future dangerous designs against the English and their ally, the Nabob

Digitized by Google

Nabob of Oude. Scindia does not at least deserve this character from us; in all his transactions with the English, I believe I might say in all his transactions that have come to our knowledge, he has shewn an uncommon degree of steadiness and sincerity. Of the circumstances alluded to, regarding the Raunah of Ghode, I have yet no information; but I know the Raunah himself to deserve the worst that can be said of his political character. His conduct to our Government has been invariably marked with deception, infidelity, and ingratitude; and if we may credit the assertions of Mahajee Scindia, the notoriety of his want of faith was the cause of Scindia's perseverence in pursuing the war to his utter deprivation. I cannot admit of any plea, which the partizans of the Raunah may use to charge Mahajee Scindia with a blemish which was so apparent in himself.

Extract of Letter from Lieutenant James Anderson to Mr. D. Anderson.

Scindia's Camp, 18th April 1784.

The Raunah, as Scindia declares, and I believe it to be the case, surrendered Ghode, on a promise of protection, and a suitable maintenance being given to him. There was no written engagement to this effect, as far as I can learn, executed between them, the Raunah having required no other pledge of security than that Raunah Cawn Bye should be sent to confirm this to him, and afterwards conduct him to Scindia. He is very well treated by Scindia; he is at present encamped at some distance from camp, along with his mother, who does not chuse to mix with the crowd. There is a party of Maratta horse attached to him as an escort, who it is probable are instructed to keep a strict watch over him.

Extract of Secret Letter from Bengal, dated the 5th July, 1784.

Par. 4. Your honourable Court has been already advised of the Governor General's procedure from the Presidency, on a commission to the Nabob Vizier, on the 17th of February last. We this day received a letter from him, dated Bodgepore, the 7th March, notifying to us advices, which he had received from Mr. James Anderson, as communicated in the postscript of our general letter of the 15th, respecting the subjection of the Ranna of Gohud, and his dominions, to Madajee Scindia.

Extract

Digitized by Google

Extract of Bengal, Secret Consultations, dated 14th *December* 1784.

Extract of the Governor General's Minute.

The Ranna of Gwalier escaped from the slight restraint which was placed on him, and it was suspected that he would throw himself on the protection of Mahomed Beg Humdannee, with whom Scindia was at variance.

COPIES

Digitized by Google

Copies of all Correspondence relative to the Ranna of Gohud, not included in the Reports of the Committee of Secrecy, or in the Papers presented on the 20th instant.

Extract of Bengal secret Consultations, the 27th April 1781.

The following inſtructions were reſolved on the 25th inſtant, and ſent to Colonel Muir.

To Colonel Grainger Muir.

Sir,

As you have been ordered by Colonel Morgan to proceed from the ſtation at Futty Ghurr, with a detachment of the Company's troops, conſiſting of two regiments of cavalry, three of ſepoys, and a company of artillery, to the aſſiſtance of Lieutenant-colonel Camac, on application made by the latter for that purpoſe, we have ſuppoſed that before this period, the forces under your command muſt have joined thoſe heretofore commanded by Lieutenant-colonel Camac; and under ſuch ſuppoſition, we directed you on the ſecond inſtant to take the command of that detachment, at the ſame time ordering Lieutenant-colonel Camac to deliver it up to you.

As the collected force of infantry and cavalry of the two detachments, when joined, muſt greatly exceed the ſervice remaining to employ them, and the artillery certainly ſo beyond all proportion, we direct that you diſmiſs ſuch part of your force in infantry and artillery, as the actual or probable exigency may not require you to retain, and order their return to the Donab. We direct alſo that you diſmiſs the ſecond regiment of cavalry, retaining the third.

We direct that you make it your object to obtain poſſeſſion of Oogein and its dependencies, and for this purpoſe we order you to proceed thither, demanding the aſſiſtance of ſuch a body of the Ranah's troops as you may think requiſite, and the Ranah's preſence with them.

If the Ranah ſhould refuſe or evade compliance with the requiſition made of him, you are to deliver to him in writing a proteſt againſt his conduct, declaring him guilty of an infraction of his treaty with this government, of which a copy is incloſed.

In

In the courſe of your march you will take ſuch advantage of the enemy as opportunities may offer to you; but for the ſake of ſuch advantage you muſt not be diverted from the object which we have preſcribed, but keep invariably in proſpect until you have accompliſhed it.

Our inſtructions to you are intended to be general, and rather to mark the objects which we wiſh to attain by the operations of the troop unders your command, than to fix the means of their accompliſhment. Theſe means we leave to your own judgement, and to the exigency of circumſtances of which we cannot be aware or adviſed in ſufficient time to inſtruct you particularly on them; and we have ſo great a reliance on your activity and experience, that we cannot ſuffer ourſelves to heſitate in leaving this power in your hands, convinced that you will never adopt a meaſure without a full conſideration of its probable conſequence, nor abate from the proſecution of it, when once undertaken, unleſs compelled by urgent and evident neceſſity.

We think it neceſſary to recommend to you, in the ſtrongeſt manner, to keep your force entire, making no detachments from it but ſuch as are abſolutely neceſſary and unavoidable; and in order to give effect to this inſtruction, and to remove the neceſſity of your eſtabliſhing garriſons for the places which may either ſurrender to our arms, or require our protection, we direct and empower you, to aſſign them to the charge or abſolute poſſeſſion of ſuch of the neighbouring zemindars as are beſt qualified to receive them, either by natural right or by ſituation, added to that of ſervice and approved attachment, except only ſuch as lie contiguous to the dominions of the Ranah of Gohed, and appertain to him in virtue of the treaty.

With theſe explanations we give you a full diſcretion for the diſpoſal of all conquered places and territories in your route, hoping you may be able to make ſuch ſtipulations with the proprietors, as may obtain either a preſent aid in money, for the relief of the expence of the expedition, or a future and permanent income in the way of tribute.

We are, &c.

Fort William,
21ſt April, 1781.

Extract

Digitized by Google

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, dated the 14th June 1781.

Extract of a Letter from Colonel Muir to Brigadier-general Stibbert.

I have dispatched a letter to the Ranah this morning, wherein I have, agreeable to my instructions, demanded a speedy performance of certain engagements entered into by him with our Government, and to which I have requested his immediate and direct answer: which, when I receive, I will do myself the honour to acquaint the Board with. In the mean time, should you judge any part of this letter worthy of communicating to the Governor General, I beg you will favour me by laying it before him.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, dated the 20th July 1781.

Read the following letter and inclosures from Colonel Muir:

Honourable Sir, and gentlemen,

It is with real concern that I now transmit you a memorial or protest relative to the Rana of Gohud; his conduct, your orders, and the necessities of my charge, have at length rendered the measure unavoidable. But to leave this misguided Chief no just cause whatever of crimination, and to convince him in the most pointed manner of the delicacy and reluctance with which I proceed on this critical occasion, I directed the accompanying letter to be dispatched with the memorial. His behaviour, notwithstanding his frequent declarations and professions subsequent to the surrender of Gualiar, has varied but little from his prior irresolution; the resemblance has been too striking for me to draw any determinate conclusion in our favour: he continues, indeed, to give me general assurances of his intentions to join the army, but his preparations for that end are too languid and dilatory for me to form any sanguine expectations from them. A supply of provisions was the first and most reasonable proof I hoped to perceive of his sincerity; but even to this period, I am concerned to make known to you, that however urgent my solicitations, and however pressing my wants, I have not been able to procure from him more than 200 bullock loads of grain; at the same time I have advanced money to his two battalions of infantry with us, or they would have withdrawn

Digitized by Google

from the field. This backwardneſs of the Rana has been an obſtacle of the firſt conſequence: but with your inſtructions conſtantly in view, as I have at length collected, by private agents to the amount of 4000 maunds of grain, I am about to form drafts from the Futty Ghur detachment, in order to complete thoſe regiments who have ſuffered from the ſervice, and to advance towards the enemy, that no poſſible opportunity of annoying them may be neglected.

The moſt diſcouraging circumſtance which my duty obliges me to communicate to you, is an inclination to deſert, which daily gains ground among our native troops: many have actually forſaken their colours, and amongſt the remainder an attachment to this ſervice is far from being eſtabliſhed: add to this, Gentlemen, the artillery carriages are in a wretched ſtate, and will require conſiderable time to put in order for ſervice.

The enemy ſtill continue encamped near Packauty, with advanced parties detached towards our firſt line near Safu. The Keetchee and Kotah Rajahs, with orders of their Rajapout allies, have quitted the field and returned home; but their army of late has been augmented by reinforcements of Goſaizo infantry, in whoſe ſervice they ſeem to place their principal reliance. As yet I have had no material propoſals from any quarter, and am convinced that none will be made worthy of our notice, or with any other intention than that of amuſing us, until by our approach their intereſts become endangered, or until a ſignal ſucceſs againſt the enemy ſhall preclude a poſſibility of another alternative.

You may be aſſured, gentlemen, of my vigilant exertions to obtain this; but my firſt care muſt neceſſarily be that of reconciling the minds of the troops to the labours and duties of the campaign; nothing will contribute to this end ſo much as a regular and plentiful proviſion of grain. If the Rana joins, I flatter myſelf that I ſhall be eaſy on this head: but if otherwiſe, which you will perceive may be the caſe, our reſources muſt be either drawn from our own country, or we muſt go on one ſide into ſome fertile neighbouring territory for ſupplies; for a direct advance into Malwa, under ſuch circumſtances, at this ſeaſon of the year, appears to be impracticable.

I wait impatiently the determination of the Rana, which, as ſoon as aſcertained, ſhall be communicated to the Board. He has every aſſurance from me requiſite to inſpire him with zeal and confidence in the alliance: at the ſame time, I have judged it uſeful to inform him, that until he actually enters into the ſpirit of the cauſe, the remains of the Futty Ghurr detachment will be encamped in his country,

Digitized by Google

in order to protect our convoys of provisions. Those regiments will be much weakened by the drafts to be made from them; and I beg leave to observe, that the compleating of them cannot be too early an object of attention.

I shall immediately proceed with the cavalry and the drafts to the army at Sussi, when, I trust, by as vigorous efforts against the enemy as discretion will justify, and by every practicable means of conciliating the minds of the neighbouring powers, or by working on their apprehensions, to bring your affairs in this part of the country into a favourable train.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) G. MUIR, Col. Commg.

Camp near Dongree,
17th June, 1781.

Copy of a Letter from Captain Thomas Ford, Persian Interpreter to Colonel Muir, to Lieutenant George Gowan, at Gualiar.

Sir,

I have it in command from Colonel Muir to transmit you a protest in the Persian language, which, agreeable to the orders of the Governor General and Council, and from the Rana's ill-judged conduct, he has been obliged to prepare, against the proceedings of that Prince; accompanying also I send you a translation of that paper.

It is the Colonel's pleasure, that immediately upon the receipt of them, you do wait upon the Maharajah Rana, and inform him of your having them in your possession, and of these consequent instructions, to which you are invariably to conform.

After this elucidation, you will please to require from him a written engagement, under his seal and signature, to join, on a certain specific day (not to exceed the tenth from your receipt of this letter) the army under Colonel Muir, agreeably to the spirit and meaning of the fifth article of his treaty with the Honourable Company, or with such force and supplies of provision as he can possibly by that period collect for the service.

But should the Maharajah Rana, under any pretext or evasion whatsoever, decline or refuse to enter into this agreement, or after having entered into it as before specified, neglect or be dilatory in its performance, it is the Colonel's positive order, in such case, that you do instantly,

 and

Digitized by Google

and in form, deliver to him the Persian protest, and yourself repair to this camp without loss of time.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) THOMAS FORD,
Persian interpreter to Colonel Muir.

Camp near Dongree,
14th June 1781.

A true copy,
(Signed) T. F.

Memorial of Colonel Muir, Mubarig ul Mulluck Iftikkar ul Dowlah Behudur, on the Proceedings of the Maharajah Rana Chuttur Sing, Luckhindie Delleer Jung Behudur.

Whereas, in the month of December of the Christian æra one thousand seven hundred and seventy-nine, and of the Higera in the month of Zecada one thousand one hundred and ninety-three, the contracting parties, that is to say, the said Maharajah Rana on his part, and the Governor General and Council on the part of the English Company, did conclude and ratify, sign and seal, a perpetual and firm treaty of alliance and friendship between each other, and in conformity to which the English gentlemen have in every respect fulfilled their engagements and promises to the Maharajah Rana: and whereas the Maharajah Rana has failed in many points agreed upon, such as in being dilatory and neglectful in the payment of 70,000 rupees, month by month, for each of the Company's battalions sent to his assistance, according to the second article of the treaty, in withholding the share of the English in the revenues of the Cutchoowergar, as prescribed in the fourth article of the treaty; in corresponding with the Marattas without communication to the English; and farthermore, in being inattentive in regard to the supplying of Colonel Muir's army with grain in their march through his country, and in many other acts of insincerity, it is become necessary to make known to the Princes of Hindostan, the defection of the said Maharajah Rana, and the good faith of the *English nation*, to the end that an infraction of the treaty may not in any wise be imputed to the Governor General and Council, or they be supposed to have deviated from the strictest justice.

But whereas principally it was stipulated and contracted for by the Maharajah Rana, in the fifth article of the treaty, that whenever the war between the English and Marattas should be carried into the Marattas' country, he should, on requisition, furnish 10,000 cavalry at his own expence

expence, towards their aſſiſtance: yet, though this force was frequently and urgently required during the command of Colonel Camac, the Maharajah Rana pleaded his not being in poſſeſſion of the fortreſs of Gualiar, in excuſe for his non-compliance. Now though Gualior had been taken ſolely by the valour and conduct of the Engliſh arms, without any military aid whatever from the Maharajah Rana, and though the immediate ſurrender of the fortreſs was not enjoined by the treaty, yet the Engliſh gentlemen, ſolely to evince an extraordinary regard to public faith, gave up the fortreſs, with all its cannon and ſtores to the Maharajah Rana.

Moreover, the Maharajah Rana, after being inveſted with the poſſeſſion of the ſaid fortreſs, repeatedly promiſed to join the Engliſh army; but being urged to fulfil thoſe engagements, he ſtill evaded their execution on the moſt frivolous pretences. Finally, whereas the Maharajah Rana, wrote us a letter in theſe expreſs terms, on the 16th of Zemmadi ul Sany, "I will join the Engliſh camp;"— and even from his promiſe has alſo ſwerved; it cannot but be manifeſt, that the Maharajah Rana has not performed in any wiſe his part of the treaty, and that he is totally diſinclined from aſſiſting the Engliſh.

It is on all theſe conſiderations become incumbent upon me, who command the Engliſh army now on ſervice againſt the Marattas, in the dominions of the Maharajah Mihieput Sing Tughinda Bahadur, the Rajah of Nurwa, to publiſh, in my own name, this written memorial and proteſt, on account of the violation of the treaty:—Be it therefore known to all the princes and nobles of Hindoſtan, to high and to low, and to the whole world, that, compelled by neceſſity, and by theſe breaches of the treaty, I from this day ſuſpend all intercourſe whatever with the Maharajah Rana, either by letter or embaſſy, until the pleaſure of the Governor General and Council on theſe premiſes ſhall be underſtood.

Given at the Engliſh camp, near the village of Dongree, the 20th Jemmadi ul Sani, A. H. 1195, or the 13th of June of the Chriſtian æra, 1781.

(Signed) G. M.

(Signed) THOMAS FORD,
Perſian Interpreter.

Ordered that the ſubject of the above letters lie for conſideration.

Digitized by Google

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, dated the 24th September, 1781.

Read the following letter and enclosure from Colonel Muir:

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

My last dispatches advised you of my having transmitted a protest to Gualior, against the conduct of the Rana, to be presented to him only in case of his still persisting in withholding the quota of troops demanded from him, in virtue of his treaty with the honourable Company. I have now the honour to inform Government, that he has since that time marched from Gualior with a force amounting to two battalions of infantry, and 1200 cavalry, and joined the army under my command at Dongree. On this event I immediately drafted 1000 men from the Futty Ghur detachment, in order to complete the regiment intended for service; and with them and the third regiment of cavalry proceeded to this camp. The garrison of Kolares, commanded by Major M'Clary, being straitened for provisions, I formed a disposition for affording them a supply, and agreeable to it marched off with my whole force in two divisions; on the evening of my arrival, the first, with which I went myself, consisting of two regiments of infantry and the cavalry, marched directly towards the enemy's encampment, with a view of surprising it, and to take off the fire from the other, composed of the remainder of my infantry and the Rana's army, having the provisions in charge; this division was under the charge of Lieutenant-colonel Achmuty. The outposts of the enemy, were so well posted, that the march of my division was soon discovered, and a skirmishing ensued, which lasted till I joined Lieutenant-colonel Achmuty near Kclarees. He arrived safe with his provisions with little molestation during his march: on our side we had but few killed, and most of my wounded suffered but slightly. From the accounts since received the enemy's loss has been capital: and having happened almost totally amongst the Gosaign infantry, in whose services they principally confide, will, I trust, have the happiest influence on their apprehensions from a campaign to be pursued during the rainy season. It was my design to have attacked the enemy's head quarters near Pachouty on the night of my arrival at Kolarees, but the alarm had spread to their camp, and defeated all hopes of essential success in such an attempt,

The

Digitized by Google

The greatest assistance I expected from the junction of the Rana was a plentiful and certain supply of grain; but notwithstanding all my representations to him on this subject, I can entertain no positive belief that he will make it the serious object of his attention; from this circumstance, together with the consideration of his army being greatly in arrears, and badly furnished with stores, it would appear that our resources must center in our own exertions—these, gentlemen, you may be persuaded shall be employed to the best advantage. In the several consultations I have had with the Rana, I find it a task of great difficulty to bring him to any active or absolute determination, but his presence with the army is of the most material consequence in relation to other powers, who must thereby be convinced, that Government has fulfilled their engagements to him, he himself has solemnly acknowledged to me that they have done more.

In this situation of affairs, gentlemen, the plan of operations cannot be well ascertained; it depends upon a variety of incidents. Should the enemy be constrained, by the inclemency of the weather, by the discontents of his army, or by any other internal cause, to retire towards his capital, or should we find it practicable to force him into this measure, we may pursue him to great advantage; but should he be able to keep the field, magazines of grain must be provided, or the assistance of some neighbouring power must be acquired, either by force or treaty, to favour our advance.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 12th of November, 1781.

Extract of a Letter from Colonel Grainger Muir to the Governor General, dated Camp, Sessai, 20th Oct. 1781.

I am sorry to inform you that my discovery of the Rana's conduct of late amounts to a positive proof of his infidelity to our Government: he has been carrying on private negociations with the Patul (without any regard to his engagements with the Company) replete with the clearest intention to betray us, and sacrifice our interests to his own private views. Upon this circumstance coming to my knowledge, I positively refused concluding any treaty with the Patul, until an attested copy of the proposed or executed treaty between them should be lodged in my possession. This copy I have with great difficulty procured, with Bappoo Sewagie's seal affixed, duplicates of which I shall have the pleasure to inclose you in my next dispatch.

 I shall

Digitized by Google

I ſhall farther only beg leave to add, that ſhould you have any commands for me in bringing the Rana to account for any balance he may owe the Company, or any other buſineſs, it will be neceſſary to tranſmit them, ſo as to meet me before I quit his country, and that period cannot exceed the 5th of the enſuing month.

Extract of Secret Letter from Bengal, dated 29th December, 1781.

Par. 21. By Colonel Muir's advices, entered in our conſultations, you will obſerve, that he has detected the Rana of Gohud in attempting to conclude a ſeparate negociation with Moodajee Scindia for himſelf, before any overtures of peace has been received by us from that Chief; and that the Colonel had obtained a copy of the paper, with other corroborating proofs of the Rana's want of attachment to our government. This information will ſerve to put us on our guard againſt any deceit or duplicity in the conduct of the Rana, and make us avoid placing too great confidence in his aſſurances of zeal and fidelity, but we are not apprehenſive of any farther conſequences from him.

See 6th Report of the Secret Committee and Appendix, from page 238 *to* 243.

Copy

Digitized by Google

COPY OF THE SEVERAL MINUTES OF THE HONOURABLE CHARLES STUART, JOHN MACPHERSON, ESQUIRE, AND JOHN STABLES, ESQUIRE, RECORDED IN THE REVENUE CONSULTATIONS OF FORT WILLIAM, OF MAY AND JULY 1785, ON THE SUBJECT OF A PLAN, PROPOSED BY THE HONOURABLE CHARLES STUART, FOR THE COLLECTION AND CONTROL OF THE REVENUE.

Extract of Bengal Revenue Consultations, 10th May 1785.

Mr. Stewart lays before the Board, the following minute and plan for the management of the revenues.

Mr. Stewart,

Having lately confidered with a good deal of attention the prefent mode of collecting the revenues, and obferving many imperfections in it, which I thought required immediate remedy; I confulted fome of the moft experienced of the Company's fervants in that line, with refpect to the adoption of fuch a fyftem as fhould be leaft liable to the objections, which in the prefent one are as evident as they are univerfally acknowledged.

Amongft all the gentlemen whom I have confulted on this occafion, I fcarcely found one who was not clearly and decidedly of opinion, that the plan of employing Company's fervants in all the diftricts, was the beft (as had been proved by experience) that could be adopted; and I could wifh the Board to confider, whether it would not be proper to revert to that fyftem; it has always met with my warmeft approbation, and fo fully convinced am I of the preference which ought to be given to it above all others, that did the queftion reft fingly with me to decide upon, I fhould not hefitate a moment in adopting it.

The only objection which appears to deferve notice is, the danger to be apprehended from a change of fyftem; on which fubject much has been faid, and no doubt with fome juftice, if applied to cafes which do not abfolutely require alteration; and if the change fhould be made imprudently, or at an improper period of the year. But at prefent none of thefe objections can be urged. I am not fingular in my opinion of the neceffity of a change. The fyftem which I propofe of employing Company's fervants, is, by the moft experienced in the revenue bufinefs, acknowledged to be the beft; and with refpect to the time of entering

Digitized by Google

entering upon a change, no one can deny that this is the best, nay, the only period when it can be made with propriety. The Bengal year is just expired, and the collections are at an end; such balances therefore as have fallen, cannot be farther realized without encroaching on the revenue of the new year, a practice of all others the most pernicious; and, upon the whole, I doubt not but that the Board will be convinced, on weighing all these circumstances, that the system may be changed without the least difficulty or embarrassment. There are at present upwards of twenty gentlemen employed in the out-districts, and the appointment of eight or nine more would complete the change proposed.

The Committee of revenue's letter on the subject of the new settlement, affords no reason to induce me to alter the opinion which I have formed, after the maturest deliberation. On the contrary, it confirms me more than ever in the propriety of it, seeing that they recommend to the Board, in the strongest terms, that the Company's servants should be directed to make the settlements of all the districts where there are "stationed, observing, that there is "not any objection to counterbalance the advantages which "on this occasion would be derived from local knowledge "and experience."

Have said this much by way of preface, I beg leave to submit to the Board, the plan which I have formed for the future management of the revenues; in the drawing up of which I have attended to the spirit of the 39th article of the late act of parliament, in favour of the rights of the zemindars; and I have also left sufficient scope for the operation of any orders we may receive from the Court of Directors consequent to that clause.

(Signed) CHAs STUART.

Calcutta, 10 May, 1785.

Plan for collecting the Revenues, by Mr. Stewart, April 1785.

As the period for the new settlement of the revenues for the ensuing year is now near at hand, and as experience has clearly shewn that the present system is in many parts very defective; I think that the Board ought immediately to take the subject into consideration, that proper measures may be adopted for removing the evils which now exist, as well as to prevent similar inconveniences in time to come.

The avowed principle of the present system is to render, as general as possible, the mode of paying the revenues direct at the Presidency, and thereby totally to abolish the intermediate agency between government and the zemindars, which was said to be productive of oppression and extortion.

Digitized by Google

extortion. This argument, at first sight, carries some weight with it; because it is to be supposed, that the fewer agents there are employed in remitting the revenues to the Khalsa, so much less will be the expences of the zemindars; but on a closer examination of this point, it will be found, that the fact is the very reverse; for the zemindars, being at a distance from the seat of government, and therefore unable to make their representations in person, are obliged to employ a number of vakeels to transact their business, and these vakeels being gained over to the interests of the native officers (whose undue influence will submit to no check but the intermediate interposition of the members of government) are easily led to betray their masters, and by working upon their hopes and fears, to bring them to any terms they may please to impose.

If it be alledged in favour of the present system, that the land revenue has been increased, I will admit that it is now greater than when the last change took place, though not more than it was in the time of the collectors; but I cannot allow that this increase has tended to the good of the public, seeing that the actual receipts into the treasury are greatly less than they were twelve years ago, under the operation of a very different system from the present, and one which has always been considered by me as the best that can be adopted. In proof of this, I beg leave to state the neat receipts into the Khalsa treasury these last twelve years, beginning with the settlement made by the Committee of circuit.

A.

	1179	2,27,81,054	In the time of the Collectors.
	1180	2,33,22,901	
	1181	2,37,06,893	First year of the Provincial Councils, including the Russeed on the Committee of Circuit's settlement.
Provincl Councils	1182	2,23,01,693	
Ditto	1183	2,21,89,957	
Ditto	1184	2,19,81,943	
Ditto	1185	2,15,14,921	
Ditto	1186	2,05,91,066	
Ditto The Councils were abolished before the expiration of the year, and balances happened of course, part of which were collected the next year.	1187	1,96,43,326	
Committee of revenue's settlement	1188	2,18,04,481	
	1189	2,15,62,371	
	1190	2,03,18,167	

From the above comparative view of the neat collections for twelve years past, I think it must be allowed that government

vernment benefited more by the former syftem of employing collectors than they do by the prefent one, wherein the native officers are permitted to have more influence than they had at any former period; and I believe there is little doubt but that the diftricts were heretofore in a much more flourifhing ftate than they are in at prefent.

Convinced as I am of the propriety of the meafure of employing Company's fervants in the management of the revenues, I am yet of opinion that many improvements may be made on the former fyftem of collectors, and contrived to coincide pretty nearly with the intentions of the legiflature, as expreffed in the late act of parliament in favour of the native hereditary zemindars and landholders. The rights and privileges of all who came under this defcription were, by the former fyftem of collectors, totally annulled, and invefted in the hands of Company's fervants, whofe bufinefs it was to make the Muffuffil fettlement, portion out the lands in farm, and collect the revenue. Thus the zemindars and their dependants being deprived of all their native rights, they, inftead of affording their affiftance to the officers of the Company, exerted their utmoft endeavours to throw impediments in the way of the collections, in hopes of driving government to the neceffity of employing them in the fame manner as before; this was an evil productive of many inconveniencies, and will be rectified by the plan which I wifh to propofe.

Every zemindar who is not totally incapable, fhould be intrufted with the interior management of his own country, at a moderate affeffment, which fhould on no account be raifed upon him. So circumftanced, it would become his immediate intereft to make the welfare and happinefs of his ryots the firft object of his attention, and would, I am convinced, in a very fhort time, be the means of reftoring thefe provinces to their former flourifhing ftate. In cafes where the zemindar is a minor, or a woman, or where there are fufficient reafons to juftify the exception, the lands may either be given in charge to a near relation of the zemindar's, or to one of the old fervants of the zemindary, on whofe fidelity and good management government can depend.—In either cafe the perfon in charge fhould be refponfible in his private fortune for the due payment of the revenue.

In all the diftricts without exception, a Company's fervant fhould be ftationed, for the purpofe of receiving the rents as they become due, and for preventing oppreffions being committed by the zemindars and their dependants, as alfo for the adminiftration of juftice, as will hereafter be more particularly mentioned.

Thefe

Digitized by Google

These gentlemen superintendants ought to have handsome salaries annexed to their appointments, and thereby be placed above every temptation that might lead to an infringement or a neglect of their duty. The oath directed by the late act of parliament should be administered to them, and the slightest instance of delinquency should be punished in the most exemplary manner. I have a better opinion of the service, than to suppose that any of its members would ever merit such a punishment; but if any person should so far forget his own honour and reputation, as to draw upon himself the just resentment of government, I hope, for the sake of the service, that no motives of lenity or partiality would be suffered to screen him from the fate he would so justly deserve.

B.—With respect to the rate of assessment, I do not think that a better medium can be adopted on a general plan, than that which was fixed by the Board, in consequence of the orders of the Court of Directors, dated the 5th February 1777; viz. the average of the collections of the Bengal years 1180, 81 and 82. From the best information I have been able to obtain, this was considered a very equitable jumma: it ought not certainly to be lower; and many districts may, from particular circumstances of indulgence in those years, be able to afford an increase upon their average collections. But it will be most proper, I believe, to give a discretionary power on this head to the gentlemen who are to make the settlements with the zemindars, which, for the first year may be tried only as an experiment until we receive the orders of the Court of Directors upon the 39th clause of the late act of parliament; but after that, it will be proper to fix the jumma unalterably during the life time of the zemindar. And when this determination of government comes to be known and depended upon, it is not to be doubted but, through the means of the gentlemen stationed in the districts, the revenue will always be completely paid up at the fixed periods.—C. In order however the better to secure the regular payment of the kists, I think the superintendant should be invested with a discretionary power of putting up to public sale a portion of the zemindar's lands, in a certain number of days (for instance ten) after each kist became due, unless it were regularly paid; and in order to prevent the pernicious practice of collusive sales, the purchaser should not be put into possession until one month after the sale, during which time the zemindar might make his appeal to the Supreme Council. The Board, on hearing his reasons for not paying his kist at the stated time, might then, if those reasons were judged satisfactory, order the land to be restored to him on his paying 5 per % to the purchaser, in consideration of

of his disappointment. This mode, I am convinced, would tend more effectually to prevent balances, than any that has ever yet been adopted; and as it should be inserted in the zemindar's cabooleat, he would be forewarned of what he was to expect from a breach of his engagements, and could not therefore have any just cause of complaint. But indeed, I believe that it would seldom or never become necessary for the superintendants to carry this power into execution; for when the zemindars saw that government were determined to adhere to the measure of selling their lands, they would most undoubtedly fall into a regular system of paying their kists as they became due, excepting indeed where their districts were ruined by some dreadful calamity, in which case the fact would be so notorious that the collector would be justified in dispensing with his usual rigour.

I have already said, that the administration of justice ought to be placed in the hands of the superintendants; and experience has shewn us the propriety of this measure. When the present system of the adauluts was first thought of, government was fully aware of the difficulties that would arise from the clashing of the authority of the judges and of the officers of the revenue, and in drawing the line between them, every precaution was taken to prevent the bad consequences that might result from it; all precautions however were vain, the evil existed in the disunion of the two authorities, and without again uniting them in the same person it became evident that one must be made a sacrifice of to the other.

The next consideration then was, how this sacrifice was to be made with least detriment to the public interest; and it was in consequence determined, that during the months of the heavy collections, the administration of justice should be suspended altogether, which was accordingly done. The judges therefore do not at present sit above seven months in the year, a period by no means sufficient to enable them to keep up their business. In addition to the above arguments it is to be observed, that the adauluts on the present system are attended with a very great expence, most of which will be saved by restoring the administration of justice to the hands wherein it ought to be lodged. This reduction amongst many others, will enable government without any additional expence, to allot to the superintendants the salaries already proposed.

The mode of collecting the revenues, being already laid down as above, it only now remains to propose the means of furnishing the allowances to the collectors without creating any additional expence to government.

From

Digitized by Google

From such accounts as I have been able to procure, it appears that the charges collection for the last year, viz. 1190, amount to rupees — — —	71,11,177
And that in the time of the collectors in 1779, the charges collection amounted only to	38,26,395
Increase of charges collection — Rupees	32,84,782

So that in the course of eleven years the charges of collection have been almost doubled, whilst, as we have already seen, the actual receipts into the Company's treasury have, during the same period, been gradually lessening.

I would therefore propose, that the present establishment of charges collection, which appears enormous, be abolished at the end of the present Bengal year, and a new one formed upon the following plan; which will not only make an handsome provision for the collectors, but will also be productive of a considerable saving to the Company:

I will suppose that it may be necessary to employ thirty Company's servants of different ranks as superintendants of the collections, viz.—D.

25 Senior Merchants.
10 Junior Merchants.
5 Factors.

And as I conceive that their allowances and emoluments ought to keep pace with their length of service, I would propose that a proper distinction in these respects be preserved between their several ranks. I would therefore fix them upon the following plan:

	Rupees	
15 senior merchants at 1,200 per month each, is per M° Rs 18,000, or per annum — —	2,16,000	
Ditto at 30,000 Rs per ann. by way of commission, in lieu of every other advantage except their salary, is per ann. — —	4,50,000	
		6,66,000
10 Junior merchants at 1,000 Rs per month is per M° 10,000, or per ann. — — —	1,20,000	
Ditto at 20,000 per ann. by way of commission as above — —	2,00,000	
		3,20,000
	Carried over	9,86,000

Five

Digitized by Google

Brought over -		9,86,000
Five factors at 800 Rs per M°, is per M° 4,000, or per annum -	48,000	
Ditto at 15,000 per ann. by way of commission as above - -	75,000	
		1,23,000
Estimated amount of pay and allowances to the superintendants per annum - - - - - Rs		11,09,000

If it be objected, that this expence will be greatly increased in proportion as the last two classes rise to the rank of senior merchants, I have only to observe in reply, that if they were all senior merchants, which is not to be supposed, the increase of expence would only be 3,21,000 rupees per ann. which, I conceive, is no consideration to Government, when compared with the advantages which will be derived from the plan proposed as already mentioned.

30 Establishments of assistants, dewans, and native officers, at 1,500 per m° is per m° 45,000; these to transact the business of the Dewanee Adauluts as heretofore; per ann.	5,40,000
30 Establishments of Fouzdarry officers at 500 per m° is per m° 15,000, or per annum	1,80,000
Khalsa Establishment	18,29,000

E.—In order to save the Board all the trouble and difficulties which would necessarily arise from their entering into a detail of the business of the superintendants, I think this duty should be allotted to one of the members of the Council, in monthly rotation; who ought to sit in the Khalsa as Comptoller of the collections, for the purpose of preserving the most vigilant attention over the conduct of the superintendants, that no time may be lost in remedying evils in the very first moment of their appearance.

If I could suppose that any farther check were necessary over the superintendants than the solemn engagement which they are to enter into, there is none that could be adopted which, in my opinion, would operate with more powerful efficacy than this controlling power of a member of the Government, who

Digitized by Google

would never want for the beſt information with reſpect to the interior ſtate of the diſtricts; and thus ſituated, it would be impoſſible for the ſuperintendants to deceive him, even if they were ſo inclined. This ſuperintendant muſt have a deputy, who ſhould be a perſon of the firſt experience and ability in the revenue line; and his allowance ought to be equal to that of the Preſident of the Committee of Revenue, viz. per annum - - - - 60,000

The ſuperintendant of the records, or preparer of reports to the revenue department, ſhould have the ſame allowance as the collectors; ſuppoſe him a ſenior merchant, it will be	44,500	
		1,04,500
Aſſiſtants and writers may be eſtimated at 5,000 rupees per month, is per annum - - -	60,000	
Eſtabliſhments of the Roy Royan and native officers, at 6,000 per m°, is per annum - -	72,000	
Contingent charges eſtimated at 2,000 rupees per month -	24,000	
Zemindary charges, according to the preſent eſtabliſhments, which may certainly be reduced -	22,89,411	
Law charges - - -	18,000	
Fouzdarry Adauluts - -	3,82,950	
Police eſtabliſhment - -	58,072	
Commiſſion to the field officers	1,26,000	
Poolbundy which may be reduced	2,61,690	
Eſtabliſhment of the ſalt diſtricts	1,50,000	
Allowances to ſervants unemployed, eſtimated at - - -	1,50,000	
		35,92,123

Total charges collection, according to the new plan - - - - -	55,25,623
Charges collection for the preſent year, according to the account delivered in by the Accountant General to the revenue department - - - -	71,63,236
Eſtimated ſaving by the new plan -	16,37,613

In forming the above account, I have preſerved ſuch of the old eſtabliſhments as appear to be neceſſary, and in ſome of

Digitized by Google

of the departments the allowances are continued the same as before. Where new establishments are introduced the allowances are very liberal, and the establishments themselves are, in my opinion, fully equal to the duty required of them. But of this I cannot be supposed to be a competent judge; and it may perhaps be necessary to be furnished with official information on the subject, before the Board can finally fix the expences: I do not, however, conceive that they will much exceed what I have stated.

It may not be improper here to remark, that at the time of the appointment of the Committee of revenue, it was the declared intention of the Government to recall all the collectors from the districts; but as not only a great number of them have been continued in their stations, but many more since appointed, it is evident that the system of confining the management of the revenues to the Committee alone has been found impracticable, and consequently a double expence has been incurred by Government. I herewith beg leave to submit to the Board, a list of the different stations of the superintendants, shewing the names of the gentlemen at present employed, and leaving blanks for the new appointments to be filled up by the Board.

As I think that no means should be left untried to incite the superintendants to give their whole attention to the realizing of the revenue, I farther propose, that they be permitted to draw their fixed salaries only, as above stated, for the purposes of defraying their current expences; and that they be not entitled to their commission until the close of the year, when the Board will pass judgment upon their conduct respectively; and if it shall have been such as to merit approbation, they will then receive the thanks of the Board for their services, and at the same time an order for the full amount of their commission, which in such case should be paid immediately from the Treasury.

On examining the revenue accounts I find that, of the present collectors some have regularly realized their revenue, whilst others have fallen considerably in balance. I do not mean at present to inquire whether those gentlemen in the latter predicament have deserved the Board's censure, or not; because, as few or none of them were permitted to make their own settlements, it may be alledged, that they were neither so much interested in realizing them, nor so well informed with respect to the circumstances of the zemindars and other landholders, as if they had themselves settled the amount of the revenues. But in order that neither this plea, nor any other, may be made use of in future by the superintendants, I am clearly of opinion, that the making of the settlements with the zemindars and hereditary landholders, upon the principles already laid down, should be

left

rest entirely to them—F. They need not be absolutely confined to the rate of assessment mentioned in the first part of the plan, as this might be productive of hardship in some particular districts, and of too great indulgence in others; the medium collection of 1180/81 and 82, ought however to be taken for the basis of all their settlement, and I do not doubt but an increase upon that jumma may in many places be obtained without rendering it in the least oppressive to the inhabitants. The superintendants however will be the best judges of the ability of their respective districts; and as their own reputations will be so much concerned, they will not make their settlements lower than the rate proposed, without the most substantial reasons for so doing; neither will they make them too high, lest they should find difficulty in realizing them.

The medium jumma alluded to is 2,67,82,458, and the present jumma is 2,75,59,000, out of which sum a balance is expected to remain uncollected of 30,00,000, as stated in the account probable receipts and disbursements. This will reduce the collections of the present year to 2,45,59,000; and I think we shall have reason to congratulate ourselves if they do not fall short of that sum, seeing, that although the year 1191 is expired, the balance of the Bengal revenue is at this time, agreeable to the Towjee account for Fagun, no less than rupees 38,56,197. 4. 16. 3. exclusive of rupees 27,67,705. 14. 11. belonging to the Behar year, on which however we cannot at present form any exact judgment.

Balance of Faugun	20,87,808	12	3	2
demand for Chyte	17,68,388	8	13	1
G				
Total blance of 1181	38,56,197	4	16	3

I submit this minute to the consideration of the Board as an outline only, which if they approve of, they may fill up with what improvements they may think proper; and if the plan is adopted, it will, I am convinced, be attended with many important advantages to Government. A large saving in the article of charges collection is clearly ascertained; the business of the revenue will in future be conducted better and on a more regular system than heretofore; a number of the Company's senior servants, whose abilities and experience are at present unserviceable, and who are receiving large pensions from Government, will be usefully employed; and being placed in situations where no motive of private interest can interfere with the faithful discharge of their duty, it is natural to suppose that a laudable emulation will arise in the service, which cannot but be productive of the greatest benefit to the Company.

Nor muſt it be forgotten, that in times of exigency, Government will be able to depend much more for every kind of exertion upon European ſuperintendants than they poſſibly could do upon the natives, who it is not to be ſuppoſed can be influenced by thoſe ties which muſt ever bind the ſervants of the Company, and ſubjects of Great Britain, to exert themſelves with vigour in promoting the general welfare of the Britiſh nation.

(Signed) CHAs. STEWART.

Notes to Mr. Stuart's Plan for managing the Revenues.

A.

This account is not perhaps perfectly exact, being prepared from a number of accounts which I have had occaſion to refer to. If, however, there is any difference in the ſums, I am warranted in ſaying, that ſuch difference extends to all the years here ſtated, and will be found to make no alteration in the principle which I ſet out with, viz. that the neat receipts into the treaſury were greatly more formerly than they are at preſent.—I will, in a future minute, if neceſſary, ſtate the account fully from authentic documents.

B.

At preſent the zemindar collects the utmoſt his country can produce, and conſequently rack-rents his tenants; could he be aſſured that Government would not raiſe their demands upon him, it would be his intereſt to encourage improvements. He would grow rich himſelf; the people under him would be happy, and Government might depend upon his aid whenever neceſſity might require them to call it forth. Living happy and contented, he could not wiſh for a change; and he would conſider his own proſperity, and that of the Government which protected him, as inſeparably united.

C.

After the rate of aſſeſſment has been fixed as already mentioned, the next object to be attended to is, the realization of it within the year. To effect this, with eaſe to the zemindar and conveniency to Government, nothing is of ſo much importance as the ſecuring of the receipts from the country as ſoon as poſſible after they come from the hands of the Ryots. If the money is allowed to remain with the zemindars, or their dependants, it is, in a very ſhort time, either diſſipated or embezzled; and it is to the want

Digitized by Google

want of a proper degree of exertion in realizing the monthly ſtated payments within the time limited, that I aſcribe the heavy balances which invariably happen at the cloſe of every year: it was with a view to the remedy of this evil, that I propoſed inveſting the revenue ſuperintendants with the power mentioned in this clauſe; and unleſs a meaſure of a ſimilar nature ſhall be adopted, I ſhall never expect to ſee the revenues completely and regularly realized. The zemindar ought not in reaſon to have any objections to this clauſe: the amount of his annual revenue, as well as the amount of his monthly payments, are ſettled with his concurrence, according to the reſources of his country: he voluntarily enters into the moſt poſitive and unequivocal enagements to pay a certain ſum every month, and this he is enabled to do by a previous knowledge of his periodical receipts: Why then ſhould he be excuſed from a ſtrict performance of theſe engagements? If he means to comply with them, he will readily give Government a ſecurity ſo reaſonable and ſo little expenſive as the one here propoſed: if his intentions are bad, they will be ſeen, and can be guarded againſt accordingly.

D.

Before I propoſed theſe allowances, I conſidered, attentively and deliberately, the various circumſtances of the Company's ſervice; and ſhould not have ventured to decide upon a matter of ſo much importance, had I not been firmly convinced that the meaſure was not only conſonant to the ſoundeſt policy, but ſtrictly conformable to the principles of juſtice. The allowances hitherto drawn by the gentlemen employed in the collection and management of the revenue (excepting by thoſe at the head of the department) have never amounted to more than a bare ſubſiſtence, and in moſt places have not been equal to the unavoidable expences of the ſtation. So circumſtanced, it was ſcarcely reaſonable to expect that the Company's ſervants would ſacrifice their whole time to the diſcharge of their duty; private buſineſs, and other avocations, might intervene, and call their attention from that duty to which they did not think themſelves bound to make every ſacrifice; and if they conducted themſelves as well as their predeceſſor had done, they did not think that more was expected of them. The ultimate view of all the Company's ſervants is to return to their native country and friends, after a reaſonable length of ſervice; and if the reward of that ſervice is not likely to admit of the accompliſhment of their wiſhes, it is not to be wondered at if they ſeek out for other modes of acquiring a competency, which may ſo far interfere with the intereſts of the Company, as to draw their attention, in

Digitized by Google

ſome degree, from the buſineſs with which they are intruſted.

The allowances which I have here propoſed are ſo liberal, and ſo fully adequate to the expectations of the ſervants, as to place them above every conſideration but that of beſtowing their whole time, and their utmoſt exertions, in promoting the intereſt of a Government by whom their labours are ſo amply rewarded; and I hope our honourable employers will think theſe obſervations deſerving of their particular attention, when they come to take this ſubject under their conſideration.

E.

The comptrolling member would have abundance of time to attend to this duty; for, as the Council ſeldom meets till towards noon, he would be able to give up to it two or three hours in every day of the week, if ſo much were neceſſary.

F.

As there is here a latitude given to the ſuperintendants to make the jumma more or leſs (according to local circumſtances) than the medium propoſed, it may be aſked, "Wherefore propoſe any fixed aſſeſſment, ſince it is not "to be abided by?"—In anſwer to this I reply, That it is proper and neceſſary to fix ſome ſtandard of expectation for the guidance of the ſuperintendants, leſt they ſhould, on one ſide, be induced, from a motive of raiſing their reputations, to aſſeſs their diſtricts higher than they could bear; and, on the other, to rate them too low, that they might have leſs trouble in realizing the revenue.

G.

Remaining kiſts of the Behar ſettlement for the preſent Behar year, 1192.

Byſack — — —	6,64,047	11	18	1
Jyte — — —	6,26,836	11	16	2
Aſſar — — —	6,45,035	3	3	—
Sawoown — — —	6,05,551	10	9	1
Bhadur — — —	2,25,334	8	14	1
Sa Rs	27,67,705	14	1	1

Liſt of Propoſed Superintendants.

1. Chittagong —	Mr. Irwin	6,79,197	12	2	4
2. Sircar Rotas —	Mr. Law	9,57,361	7	8	—

3. Sircar

3. Sircar Sawrien —	Mr. Grœune	13,12,721	4	1	2
4. Patna —	Mr. Brooke	10,42,438	8	15	—
5. Nuddeea —	Mr. Redfearn	10,27,427	3	2	1
6. Sirkar Firkool —	Mr. Grand	7,01,234	4	3	—
7. Purnea —	Mr. Heathly	10,00,479	4	4	—
8. Rajeshoy —	Mr. Dallas	24,00,000	—	—	—
9. Sylhet —	Mr. Lindsay	2,33,824	5	—	—
10. Part of Behar —	Mr. Bathurst	4,60,008	15	—	—
11. Silberries —	Mr. Champion	2,87,673	10	9	1
12. Dinagepore —	Vacant	14,60,444	12	12	2
13. Burdwan —	———	43,58,,026	15	—	—
14. Beerbhoom —	———	6,11,321	7	16	—
15. Bissenpore —	———	3,86,707	11	17	—
16. Salt Districts —	Mr. Vansittart	12,56,696	13	2	—
27. Khordia Mohuls	Mr. Wilkins	3,14,774	5	19	—
18. Boglepore Mongheer Raejmehal	Mr. Chapman	5,47,600	13	19	—
19. Ram Ghurr Patcheat Jelda	Mr. Cumming	1,61,216	11	9	3
20. Twenty-four Pergunahs and Putteel Abaud —	Mr. Touchet	9,55,872	3	18	2
21. Midnapore Cossijorah 14 Annas, ditto 2 Annas Midnapore Proper Mynachoura Narajole Jallasore	Mr. Pearce	8,89,941	14	6	—
22. Houghly Sultanpore Mahamudnmypore Hogla Collora Serferagepore	— —	5,54,053	12	11	3
23. Moorshedabad Radabullubpore Luskarpore Coolberria Burbazoo Roypore Megna Assudnagore Mussuddah Jehangeerpore Rajebarry Radabullubpore Shazadpore Do. Khirgong Cantoonagore	Mr. Fenwick	8,92,099	14	17	1

24 Mahomed

Digitized by Google

24. Mahamod Shoy Rocunpore Futty Sing Cutwa Sumusker Buderpore Beldanger Gopeenautpore Mohunpore Sootseyka Belgachy Zaihenpore, 10 annas Do. 6 do. Baherbund	—	—	8,55,093	2	15	1
25. Rungpore and Edruckpore		Mr. Moore	9,43,306	9	—	2
26. Dacca	—	Mr. Day	14,59,385	14	18	3
27. Ditto	—	———	8,51,500	7	5	2
28. Ditto	—	———	8,51,500	7	5	2
29. Town Calcutta	—	Mr. Seton	1,09,969	1	6	—
Gross Jumma of 1191		Rupees	2,75,59,000	5	6	—

The Governor General requests to have a copy of Mr. Stuart's plan, which he has only cursorily perused, and he will deliver his opinion on it at the next meeting of the Board.

Agreed, that a copy of Mr. Stuart's plan be furnished the Governor General accordingly.

Mr. Stables moves, that the Committee of revenue be empowered to authorize the collectors, who are already established, and not recalled by the late resolutions of the Board, to make the settlement of the present year, according to the honourable Company's orders and the 39th article of the act of the twenty-fourth of his present Majesty, respecting the rights of the zemindars and other landholders.

Mr. Stables adds, that he will give his * opinion respecting the other part of the collections mentioned in Mr. Stuart's plan.

The Governor General observes, that the sooner the settlement for the new year, or even any part of it, is made, the better; he therefore agrees, that the Committee of Revenue be immediately authorized to empower the established collectors to make the settlement of their respective collectorships; and proposes, that an early day be fixed for making the settlement of the Huzzoory Mahals.

The Board agree to Mr. Stables's motion.

* Not yet upon record.

Extract

Extract of Bengal Revenue Consultations, 29th May, 1785.

The Governor General delivers into the Board the following minute, and paper accompanying, on the plan for the collection of the revenue, recorded at the last meeting; and moves, That they be immediately circulated for the opinions of the Members of the Board.

Governor General.

I have considered fully, and with the most liberal attention, the new system which Mr. Stuart has proposed for the collection and control of the revenues, and which has been recorded on our last consultations in this department. It would be a real satisfaction to me, to concur with Mr. Stuart in the propositions which he wishes the Board to adopt: a readiness to co-operate with my colleagues in every improvement which they may suggest in the general conduct or detail of public affairs, is, in my opinion, as desirable a claim to approbation in my present situation, as the credit of introducing new plans. The object before us, as members of this government, is no less great than the merit of attaining it must be an equal credit to us all. That object is, in the first view of it, the immediate relief of the public distress, founded upon a permanency of system in the great political line of our management. The reduction of our expences to the lowest standard of safety, is the next consideration: and the improvement of our revenues, on a system of permanent production, with ease and convenience to the natives, is certainly a principal part of our public object; it might justly be called the primary duty of this government; in this light I have always considered it; and from the time I became a member of the government, I have endeavoured to inform myself fully and minutely upon the subject of the revenues: I have looked, as far as our records could direct me, to the different modes of collecting, and administering the revenues; and I have attended particularly to the great changes which our revenue system has occasionally undergone from the period of the Dewanny. The discussion which took place, on this important concern, between the late Governor General and Mr. Francis, form the most interesting and enlightened part of our records; they patronized different and opposite systems; and supported them respectively, not only with their own extraordinary abilities, but with the aid of the best information from the most experienced servants that ever were employed by the Company in the revenue line. From some of these servants I obtained memorials, containing their impartial sentiments, founded

upon

upon long and real experience, and suggesting to me, the best plans for realizing a full and permanent revenue from these provinces; making the security and happiness of the natives the fundamental principle of the collection. I shall, with the permission of the Board, take the liberty to record, in this place, one of the memorials to which I allude, and which has been in my possession, as appears by the superscription upon it, from the 13th January 1782: I received it from Mr. Shore, who presided so long at the head of the Committee of revenue; I need not mention with what honour to himself: the universal testimony which the voice of the natives, the repeated approbation of this government, and the superior esteem of his fellow servants, bore to the merits of Mr. Shore, renders it unnecessary for me to add the praise to which he was entitled, for his knowledge and integrity in the administration of the revenue. As the memorial which he gave me, was not meant for the public eye, but to give me a clear view of the subject, to forward the public advantage, the truths which he has stated appear in their naked simplicity, and thereby convey a more forcible impression than dress or arrangement could give them. In considering the productions of the soil, and the revenue to be collected from them, he has been equally attentive to the character of the people, and their peculiar dispositions and customs. I am afraid the picture which he draws, and the low ebb at which he states the popular virtues of the Bengallys, are not fictitious representations: but these should not discourage the justice or the care of government: if the virtues of the Bengallys, as a nation or as tribes of men, are of an inferior standard, their vices are not the most dangerous to the peace or order of society; the more we are acquainted with their genius and manners, the more it becomes incumbent upon us to endeavour to make them useful and happy subjects; and if they are incapable of meriting and enjoying the freedom of British laws, let us endeavour to leave them the happiness and security of their own institutions unviolated. The progress which many of our servants have made in learning their language, and the translations which we have obtained of their laws, together with the lights which we possess relative to the administration of their former Mahometan rulers, open to us a clear prospect for accommodating our dominion over these provinces to the happiness of the people. In the course of a few years, I trust, it may be said with truth, that the natives of Bengal are the happiest subjects of any great state in India: in proportion as they are made happy, it is to be hoped that their virtues, as people, will appear in a more engaging light. It was Mr. Shore's opinion,

that much of their security and quiet would depend on uniting the powers of the collector and magistrate in one deputation of authority. Though I agree generally with Mr. Shore in this opinion, and though Mr. Stuart's proposition, of uniting the adaulut of each district with the collectorship, is founded upon the same belief, I very much doubt whether we are as yet sufficiently advanced to risque the consequences of vesting so unchecked a power generally in the hands of our servants. The institution of the adauluts, or separate establishments of provincial magistracy, did great honour to its authors; and I freely confess, that it is only by degrees, and after witnessing the success of progressive experiments, that I can for my own part; consent to the abolition of the adauluts, or the transfer of that separate jurisdiction to the same hands which possess the power of the collections. Here I am sorry to be obliged to differ with Mr. Stuart in a leading principle of his system; in other points, where Mr. Stuart's plan corresponds in some measure with the doctrine laid down by Mr. Shore, I am prevented from giving my concurrence on the ground of general considerations.

When I succeeded in February last to the charge of my present office, I laid it down as a general and necessary principle, to avoid innovation in the system of government, to endeavour to conduct the public affairs in the train in which they had devolved upon me, rectifying, at the same time, such abuses as could be remedied without any violence to established arragements; and it was only in the abolition of unnecessary expences, and the reduction of useless offices, that I ventured to propose alterations, or to introduce new measures, without first submitting them to the approbation of the Company. Many were my reasons for prescribing to myself this line of conduct, and I communicated them freely and candidly to the Board.—Every change of system in government, and especially in so important a source of its existence as that of its revenue, is, in my opinion, to be avoided, excepting in extraordinary cases: to attempt such a change, the government itself ought to be permanent, the advantages of the change to be certain, great, and demonstrable; nor should it be attempted but with a previous sanction and full approbation of the power which alone can give it permanency as a regulation. The inconveniencies, and even evils, of existing systems are always obvious, and may be easily exposed; the advantages of any system are never demonstrable but from experience: disadvantages may arise where they are least apprehended; and the most perfect institutions of legislation and policy are often found defective from the inexperience and rotation of agents.

Digitized by Google

When

When it was first suggested at the Board to change the present system of collecting the revenues, I moved, That an official account should be laid before us, of the collections of these provinces for several years back, stating the gross jummah or settlement of each year, the charges collection, the neat revenue realized, and, the balance remaining uncollected. That account, from the year 1772-3 to the year 1783-4, now lies upon the table; and I beg leave to subjoin it to this minute, with the explanations which accompany it. By that account it appears demonstrably, that the amount of the gross collections since the institution of the collections at the Presidency under the Committee of Revenue, has been annually greater by several lacks than the collection of any year preceding the institution of the Committee. It is true, the balances have been likewise more considerable; but the balance remaining uncollected at the end of the present year is the least since the institution of the Committee. The balance of the Towjee account for Cheyte, closed this year on the 11th May, is 11,54,000 rupees, which is, by two lacks of rupees, less than the same account was last year, though not closed till the 20th of June 1784, and near six lacks of rupees less than the preceding year 1783, closing also on the 16th June: this is a strong proof of the progressive improvements of the Committee's system, and a strong argument against innovation. It is true, the account entitled, *Charges of Collection*, has been greater since the institution of the Committee than it was formerly; it has risen gradually since 1772-3, from 41,56,000 to 71,29,000 in 1783-4; but when the particulars of which those charges are composed, are displayed under their different heads, as in the account A. subjoined to this minute, it will appear that the increase might more properly be called the increasing expences of government, than the increased expences of the collection of the revenue. It should likewise be remembered, that in consequence of injunctions to the Committee at the commencement of our reforms in January last, they presented to us a reduction of expence in their department, to the amount of eight lacks of rupees per annum; and one of the principal sources of reduction in our expences, which has been held forth to the Company in our late letters from the Secret Department of Inspection and Reduction, has proceeded from the proposed *Abolition* of *Collectorships*; the reverse of the system which is now presented for our adoption.

I am at the same time free to avow a predilection to the system of collectorships, of about eight or ten lacks each; and I would wish to see every district of the Company's possessions under the superintendance of Company's cove-

nanted

nanted servants, conversant in the language and manners of the natives, and capable of collecting, without the intervention of a native agent or deputy, a fixed revenue for the Company, paid and collected by monthly installments, with ease to the ryot, and without a balance remaining unpaid of the just dues of government.—I could likewise wish to see the Committee of Revenue acting as a Committee of Controul over such collectorships throughout all the provinces, and divested of every interference in the collection and management of the revenue, but that which might be necessary in keeping the collectors to their duty, checking their accounts, and receiving the appeals of the zemindars and ryots; and I should be particularly happy to see the Committee in a capacity to execute these important duties, independent of the general agency and improper authority of a native Dewan, or in plain English, a native Chancellor of Exchequer. But these are improvements and advantages in our revenue system, which I am not sanguine enough to look for from any sudden or abrupt changes: they may be hoped for in the progress of a regular, concerted, and deliberate chain of measures. Whenever the period may arrive, when the administration here and that at home shall unitedly resolve to begin upon such a plan for conducting the revenues of this country, it will be found that many preparatory arrangements are necessary to its introduction with safety and ensuring success.

It is to be supposed that the Company will, in consequence of the late act of parliament, and the directions prescribed to them in that act, send us particular instructions on the subject of the revenues, by their first dispatches. As we are in daily expectation of such dispatches, and as so much of the present year has already elapsed, I think we should, without farther loss of time, or discussion of less important points, instruct the Committee of revenue to make the settlements of the Huzzoory districts, or revenues collected at the Presidency for the present year, in the spirit of the Company's orders, and according to the obvious intention of those clauses in the act of parliament which provide for the interest of the zemindars and ryots.—We should, at the same time, transmit to the Committee, Mr. Stuart's plan, together with Mr. Shore's memorial, informing them, that we have it in contemplation to introduce the general system recommended in both, whenever it can be brought forward without the dangers and difficulties incident to a sudden change of system, and without clashing with instructions which may be soon expected from home. Should the majority of the Board differ with me in the present opinion, and not accede to it as my proposition; should they, on the contrary, have

Digitized by Google

have such an impression of the defects of the present system, or of the mismanagement of it in any particular department or agent, as to think the introduction of a new system, or of Mr. Stuart's plan in particular, immediately necessary; I hope they will devote their particular attention to the charge of the plan on which they may be pleased to resolve; though it cannot meet my approbation, it will certainly receive my utmost support. I cannot, at the same time, be equally responsible for the issue at the end of the ensuing year.—Mr. Cowper, the acting President of the Committee, in whose abilities, activity, and integrity, I repose the most perfect confidence, assured me, on the 29th of last month, that of the huzzory mahls or collections made at the Khalsa, there would be little or no balance this year if the Committee were fully supported in realizing them. I am convinced the other Members of the Committee will exert themselves fully to discharge their duty and do credit to the present administration: and I beg leave to observe to the Board, that there is hardly any medium between the most ample power and real responsibility, in a trust such as that which we have delegated to the Committee of revenue. The monthly rotation of the control, which Mr. Stuart proposes for a Member of Council to execute, by sitting in the Khalsa as comptroller of the collections, would, I fear, serve only to weaken the efficient authority of the Committee, without introducing a more powerful check. The control must be permanent in one authority to be either efficient or responsible, and it requires the undivided attention of any one officer of government. But upon what days of the week could this control be exercised by any of the Members of government individually?—there being public Councils, at which the presence of all the Members is necessary, except on Saturdays and Sundays.

(Signed) J. M'PHERSON.

Remarks on the Mode of administering Justice to the Natives in Bengal, and on the Collection of the Revenues.

Mr. Shore.

1st. The Company are in possession of a very extensive territorial jurisdiction in Bengal, equally fertile, populous, and advantageous to the British nation, for the large returns it makes in revenues and manufactures.

It becomes a question, What system of government can be best adopted for the management of this territory? This cannot be answered till several leading facts have been ascertained.

Bengal is inhabited by various sects, amongst which that of the Hindoos may be estimated to make up eight tenths of the population: they are the aborigines of the country, and by nature and religion are peaceable and inoffensive.

Their national character is the compound of their characters as individuals: an obstinate attachment to all their customs and prejudices, whether superstitious, ceremonious, or traditional, may be deemed a general characteristic of the Hindoos.

Their manners partake of the nature of the government under which they ever lived; as this has been arbitrary or despotic, the natives are timid and servile. As individuals, they are insolent to their inferiors; to their superiors, generally speaking, submissive; though they are to them also guilty of insolence, where they can be so with impunity.

Speculation they seldom indulge in any transactions; the present hour is what they alone look to the advantage of, which they will not forego for greater certain prospects, if remote. They are as little moved by curiosity.

Individuals have little sense of honour; and the nation is wholly void of public virtue. They make not the least scruple of lying, where falsehood is attended with advantage; yet both Hindoos and Mahomedans continually speak of their credit and reputation, by which they mean little more than the appearance they make to the world. Of the two, the latter are more tenacious of this; the same man that will submit to the greatest indignities exercised upon him in private, will be clamorous at an affront put upon him before his servants or the public.

Cunning and artifice is wisdom with them; to deceive and overreach is to acquire the character of a wise man.

The greatest disgrace they can suffer is to lose their cast, or, as we say, to be excommunicated. This punishment is inflicted for the breach of the injunctions of their religion; or, what is the same, of the ordinances of their priests. To lie, steal, plunder, ravish, or murder, are not deemed sufficient crimes to merit expulsion from society.

With a Hindoo, all is centered in himself; his own interest is his guide; ambition is a secondary quality with him; and the love of money is the source of this passion.

The advantage they derive over Europeans, is by practising those arts of meanness which an European detests. A man must be long acquainted with them, before he can believe them capable of that barefaced falsehood, servile adulation, and deliberate deception, which they daily practise.

To our government they have little attachment; yet it is certain that, in general, property has been more secure,

 and

Digitized by Google

and individuals leſs oppreſſed, than under the deſpotiſm of their Nabobs. I aſſert this with all the confidence conviction inſpires. I believe them to be as much attached to the Engliſh government as they would be to any other; but if another dominion could eſtabliſh itſelf, they would embrace it with indifference. The reaſon of this muſt be ſought for in the conſequences of a deſpotic authority; and by tracing them, the characters of the natives will be eaſily developped and underſtood; in them will be ſeen the ſource of timidity, adulation, and deceit, which prevail.

It is very obvious, that within the laſt ten or twelve years, a conſiderable alteration has taken place in the manners of the people. This alteration is the natural conſequence of a greater degree of intimacy with Europeans, than they formerly were admitted to. Thoſe parts of our character which firſt drew their attention, were bravery, clemency, and good faith. They have ſince found out that we are not wholly deſtitute of weakneſſes and vices; and that Europeans, like all others, are open to temptation: the reſpect they entertained for us as individuals, or as a nation, is diminiſhed; and they now conſider themſelves upon a more equal footing.

The introduction of the Supreme Court of Judicature has largely contributed to the elevation of the natives, and to the depreſſion of Europeans. This ſyſtem, which was meant for the relief of the natives, has, in very few reſpects, anſwered that object; in many inſtances it has been a heavy grievance to them; and the natives themſelves have found out the art of making the powers of the Court the means and inſtrument of forwarding their own views of intereſt and oppreſſion, of eluding the power of the government, and of weakening its authority, by engaging the two tribunals in conteſts with each other.

It is in vain that we ſearch for men of enlightened underſtanding, deep reaſoning, and reflection, amongſt the natives. The education of the Hindoos is confined to their being taught their own language: the Mahomedans are little better inſtructed; the acquiſition of a few moral or political maxims, which in practice they neglect, is all they know of the art of government; if exceptions can be found, they are very rare.

Such are the inhabitants of Bengal, over whom the European juriſdiction is eſtabliſhed: prudence may, no doubt, render it permanent, but prudence and policy alone can effect this; for on a compariſon of their numbers with ourſelves, it muſt be evident to all, that the power by which we rule is leſs real than ideal.

The grand object of our government in this country ſhould be to conciliate the minds of the natives: this may

 be

Digitized by Google

be effected by allowing them the free enjoyment of all their prejudices, and by securing to them their rights and property: the form of it should, I think, be despotic, and the natives should still be retained in those habits of submission which are natural and familiar to them; to this they will make no objection, whilst they are treated with humanity and justice.

Between the head tribunal of government and its subjects, I would preserve a great and respectable distance; nor suffer the persons of the Members of the state to be treated with a familiarity which induces contempt.

In fact, the Supreme Council in Bengal should be a Council, a comptrol merely to superintend the conduct of all the other departments of the state, and oblige them to do their duty. As a government, or as individuals, they should not interfere in the executive duties of subordinate stations; but be attentive only to correct their errors, reform their abuses, or punish their injustice; they should prescribe rules of conduct, and leave the execution of them to others.

Their business upon this scale would be limited, simple, and easy: but where the Members of the state, or the collective body of it, attend to all applications, interfere in all appointments, and undertake business of a trifling nature, they can neither act with propriety as an office of comptrol, nor as an office of dispatch, whilst they leave it in the power of the lowest to judge of their capacities and intentions.

Upon this principle, all the subordinate offices of government should also be formed: the gradation from the first to the last should be easy and connected; and all business in its progress should observe these gradations: and we must be careful not to suffer the existence of two authorities that clash with the operations and counteract the influence of each other.

These are the general outlines; in the application of them we are to consider the three great departments of the government; viz. The administration of justice, the management of the revenues, and, the commercial interests —The political department relates to other objects, so wide and extensive, that it must be considered separately.

Several systems have been adopted for the management of the revenues and the administration of justice; at one period they have been united, at another they have been separated.

Till the year 1770 the revenues, with a few partial exceptions, were under the control of the natives; but it was then deemed more advantageous to the Company to employ their servants. In consequence of this determination,

Digitized by Google

tion, Europeans were appointed *as Supervisors*, and the comptrol of the districts, in matters of revenue as well as in what related to the administration of justice, was vested in them.

The Councils of comptrol were established; one at Moorshedabad and one at Patna; to these the collectors were subordinate, and acted under their orders and authority.

These Councils were, in their turn, subordinate to the Council at the Presidency, composed of the Members of the government themselves.

The Khalsa or head revenue court of the country, was at that period fixed at Moorshedabad; but it was thought proper to remove it to Calcutta, and the Council at Fort William took upon themselves the immediate direction and comptrol of the collectors; in consequence of which the two Councils at Moorshedabad and Patna were abolished.

In 1774 the collectors were recalled, and the districts were formed into divisions, and provincial Council of revenue appointed for each; their stations were at Calcutta, Burdwan, Patna, Dacca, Moorshedabad, and Dinagepore. The administration of civil justice was vested in the Council at large, but held in rotation by one of the Members.

In 1780 the administration of justice was separated from the comptrol over the revenues, and vested in persons neither connected with the revenue department, nor subordinate to it.

In 1781 the plan was extended, and the number of the courts of adawluts increased; and in the beginning of the same year the present system for the management of the revenues took place.

To all these plans, excepting the first, very solid objections may be made. In proposing the system which appears to me the simplest and best, I shall give attention to them.

The following are the outlines of the plan:

1st. That in the two departments, of the administration of justice in civil cases, and the management and comptrol of the revenues, the servants of the Company should be employed.

2. That the duties of these two departments be vested in the same persons.

3d. That for this purpose, Company's servants, under the denomination of superintendants, be appointed to the different districts.

REMARKS.

Digitized by Google

REMARKS.

Article 1st.

After the character which has been drawn of the natives, it is needless to add, that I think them ill calculated for these important trusts. I might appeal to the experience of every European who has had opportunities of seeing the natives in office, in support of my opinion.

The general system of affairs in Bengal is now wholly different from what it was ten years ago: the scale of connections and interests is greatly extended, and English forms of policy and law are introduced. The natives no longer look up to one of their own country and sect as their supreme head, but to Europeans; nor can they act, as formerly, without our advice and assistance.

It is the part of a wise Government to provide against all contingencies: we ought not therefore to rely upon the peaceable disposition of the natives, or on a supposed attachment to us; but establish such a comptrol in all parts of the country, that, in case of a foreign invasion by an European power, or of the inroads of an Eastern enemy, or the event of rebellion in any of our provinces, the payment of the revenues may not be suspended, illicit correspondence or dangerous confederacies may be checked, and the contagion of rebellion stifled.

That the servants of the Company are qualified for the task I propose to allot to them, I may venture to pronounce. The collection of the revenues is in itself simple; and if it is now attended with particular embarrassments, they arise from the system which has been established, or from other accidental causes. Common sense, a competent knowledge of the language, application, and rectitude of intention, are all the qualities required either for this or in the distribution of justice. It is part of the comptrolling power to retain every man in his duty, and prevent the abuse of authority.

An Englishman cannot descend to those little practices of oppression or extortion so familiar to the natives; his mind revolts at the idea of them: and admitting even that some are, by habit, connections, or necessity, become depraved, there is, after all, in every breast a sense of honour and virtue that recoils from the low vicious arts of a native of Bengal.

In reverting to the period when this system was established, I cannot recollect any objections against it; some might be drawn from the personal characters of the individuals employed; but those can no more be urged against the plan itself, than the vices of the priests can be adduced to prove the Christian religion wrong. If a Government

 will

Digitized by Google

will suffer crimes and vices to go unpunished, no system can be adopted that will answer any good purpose.

Article 2d.

People long accustomed to a despotic authority should only look to one master. It is impossible to draw a line between the revenue and judicial departments in such a manner as to prevent their clashing; and in this case, either the revenues must suffer, or the administration of justice be suspended. The present regulations define the objects of the two several jurisdictions with clearness and precision; yet they continually clash in practice: complaints are so blended, that it is often impossible to determine to which tribunal they belong; and that there has not been more confusion than has actually happened, is owing to the discretion of those who have been entrusted with the administration of justice.

It may be possible in the course of time to induce the natives to pay their rents with regularity, and without compulsion, but this is not the case at present. If any force is offered, a complaint is made in a court of justice, and whether true or false, a temporary protection is given to the complainant, who is released from the demands upon him: to realize them afterwards is no easy Matter.

In all demands for revenues, or in summonses to cause the attendance of parties at the Adawluts, peons are employed, and very often the peons of the two tribunals meet at the house of the same man, where the property of his person is contested, and he is obliged to pay both parties.

In those districts, such as Boglepore, &c. where the two jurisdictions are vested in the same person, these inconveniences do not arise: the duties of the two departments, though united in the same person, are separated in practice; and this may still be done.

If the present system should continue, it will be necessary to secure the regulations for the administration of justice: in general they are very proper, but some few alterations will be necessary, and to reduce them to the understandings of the people, they require to be simplified.

It has been the fate of this Government to form good regulations, but not to enforce them; and this gave room to these objections, which were made against the powers of the Courts of Revenue and Justice being exercised by the same persons; the error was not in the institution, but in the neglect of duty.

If any solid arguments can be urged on the other side, it is, that the business of either department will be found

sufficient

Digitized by Google

sufficient to occupy the whole time and attention of one man. It is certain he will not have much leisure; but I am convinced may nevertheless perform the duties of both offices to the satisfaction of himself and his superiors, by a well-regulated method and proper attention.

Article 3d.

In the remarks on the first article, one great advantage of this system has been pointed out; others are not wanting.

In the actual collection of the revenues, nothing is more necessary than to give immediate attention to all complaints, which are preferred daily without number, and dispatch them in a summary manner. This cannot be done where the comptrol is remote.

In every purgunnah throughout Bengal, there are some distinct usages which cannot be clearly known at a distance; yet, in all complaints of oppression or extortion, these must be known before a decision can be pronounced. But to learn at Calcutta the particular customs of a district of Radshaby or Dacca, is almost impossible; and considering the channels through which an explanation must pass, and through which the complaint is made, any colouring may be given to it, and oppression and extortion, to the ruin of a district, may be practised with impunity.

This is a continual source of embarrassment to the Committee of Revenue in Calcutta. One object of their institution is, to bring the revenues without agency to the Presidency; and all local comptrol, is removed from over the renters who pay at Calcutta, or what is called Huzzoory; when complaints are made against them, it is almost impossible to discriminate truth from falsehood; and to prevent a failure in the revenues, it is found necessary in all doubtful cases to support the farmer; a circumstance which may confirm the most cruel acts of oppression.

The real state of any district cannot be known by the Committee; a farmer or zemindar may plead, that an inundation has ruined him, or that his country is a desart from want of rain; an aumeen is sent to examine the complaint; he returns with an exaggerated account of losses, proved in volumes of intricate accounts, which the Committee have no time to read, and for which the aumeen is well paid; possibly, however, the whole account is false. Suppose no aumeen is employed, and the renter is held to the tenor of his engagements, the loss, if real, must occasion his ruin, unless his assessment is very moderate indeed.

I may venture to pronounce, that the real state of the districts is now less known, and the revenues less understood,

ſtood, than in 1771. Since the natives have had the diſpoſal of accounts, ſince they have been introduced as agents, and truſted with authority, intricacy and confuſion have taken place; the records and accounts which have been compiled are numerous; yet, when any particular account is wanted, it cannot be found. It is the buſineſs of all, from the Ryott to the Dewan, to conceal and deceive; the ſimpleſt matters of fact are deſignedly covered with a veil, through which no human underſtanding can penetrate.

With reſpect to the preſent Committee of Revenue, it is morally impoſſible for them to execute the buſineſs they are entruſted with; they are veſted with a general control, and they have an executive authority, larger than ever was before given to any Board or body of men; they may and muſt get through the buſineſs, but to pretend to aſſert that they really execute it, would be folly and falſehood.

The grand object of the natives is to acquire independant control; and for many years they have purſued this with wonderful art. The farmers and zemindars under the Committee proſecute the ſame plan, and have ready objections to any thing that has the leaſt appearance of reſtriction; all control removed, they can plunder as they pleaſe.

The Committee muſt have a Dewan, or executive officer, call him by what name you pleaſe. This man, in fact, has all the revenues paid at the Preſidency at his diſpoſal; and can, if he has any abilities, bring all the renters under contribution. It is little advantage to reſtrain the Committee themſelves from bribery or corruption, when their executive officer has the power of practiſing both undetected.

To diſplay the arts employed by a native on ſuch occaſions would fill a volume. He diſcovers the ſecret reſources of the zemindars and renters, their enemies and competitors; and, by the engines of hope and fear raiſed upon theſe foundations, he can work them to his purpoſes. The Committee, with the beſt intentions, beſt abilities, and ſteadieſt application, muſt after all be a tool in the hands of their Dewan.

This would never be the caſe in the ſyſtem I propoſe, as the Dewan would neither be the channel of information nor of executing orders; his buſineſs would be limited.

The ſame objections that are made againſt the preſent Committee of Revenue, may be applied to the ſyſtem of provincial councils; it is ſufficient to ſay of them, that the univerſal opinion, ſtrengthened by experience, has pronounced

Digitized by Google

nounced the system fundamentally wrong, and inapplicable to any good purposes.

After all, the Government must consider, that to make people do their duty, hope must be held out as well as reward; or, in the words of a gentleman, formerly a member of the Supreme Council, "no Government will "be served faithfully that does not reward its servants li"berally."

This is one great defect in the system for the administration of justice; the pay of the judges is equal only to their subsistence, and their present rank is the last step of the scale. Having no object in this line, they have little inducement to exert themselves in it, but are anxious to get removed to some other where their prospects are better.

Foujedary jurisdiction.—Of the Foujedary jurisdiction nothing has yet been said. In this department, criminal justice is administered, and it is the only office left to the Nabob.

I do not see any particular reason for changing the system itself, and perhaps it would, on many accounts, be improper; but some regulations are highly necessary.

Mahomed Reza Cawn is at the head of this department, and is the only person I know in the country qualified for it. If he were left to himself, I have not a doubt but he would conduct it well; but he is so circumscribed by recommendations of particular persons, and by the protection held out to his officers by Europeans, that, to my knowledge, he has not been able to punish them even when they have been convicted of the greatest enormities; and he has often on this account been blamed when his hands were tied up.

The present Foujedary system, unless it has lately undergone great alterations from the control over the foujedars vested in the Judges of the Adawlet, is a mere system of rapine and plunder, and furnishes another proof against the leaving natives with an uncontrolled power.

What is particularly wanted is, to impose checks and restraints upon the foujedarry officers, scattered about the different districts; and this might be done consistent with the plan I propose, by lodging a controlling power with the collectors over them. With respect to the trial of delinquents, that should be left with the natives alone; the trial is always sent to the Naib Nazim, and must be confirmed by him, and receive his sanction, before the sentence can be carried into execution.

I do not think it would be unbecoming the dignity or humanity of this Government, to procure some alteration in

Digitized by Google

particular punishments, which are a disgrace to humanity; I allude in particular to the cutting off limbs, and impalling; the very mention of which makes nature shudder.

As to the mode of control, it might be as follows: to fix the station of the head Foujedar of a district at the same place with the Superintendant, and to oblige him to make a daily report of all the prisoners under his charge; to order him to obey the orders of the Collector for the seizure of any delinquents, and if the crimes of the prisoners merit trial, to make the Foujedar deliver them over without delay to the proper officer for that purpose; to abolish all fines whatever as punishments; and to reduce the number of petty tannahs or guards which are now scattered about the country.

To prevent an abuse which arises from the pay of Peons employed by this Court, and which is made an article of profit; a restriction might be laid upon the Foujedar not to issue summonses but under the signature of the Superintendant.

It was formerly the duty of the zemindars to preserve the peace within their respective districts, and to apprehend all robbers and breakers of the peace: this cannot be done universally, but may still be adopted in particular districts; for instance, in Burdwan.

It may now be proper to take a general review of the system I propose. The administration of justice, and collection of the revenues of the whole country, having been vested in Company's servants, appointed to the different districts, it will be necessary to establish a control over them.

For this purpose, a Council of Control, similar to the present Committee of Revenue, should be established in Calcutta, with whom the Collectors should correspond, and whose orders they are to obey. To them they are to send their monthly accounts of their collections and disbursements, and remit the former to them.

This Council should be simply deliberative, nor have any office of collection itself: I would not allow them any judicial authority, except merely to refer complaints of any kind to the Collectors.

The present Court of Appeal, under the name of Sudder Dewanny Adawlet, may still continue with all its powers; to this Court the Collectors, in their judicial capacities, are to be subject, and to make their returns to it, as at present.

The Supreme Council will still have a control over the whole: the Committee are to send the whole monthly accounts to them, with their proceedings, as at present, with a general

a general report upon the state of the business and conduct of the Collectors.

Every subordinate office must be possessed of full authority: the Committee must not interfere in the duties of the Collector, who, within his jurisdiction, should be considered as despotic.

The Committee should not decide primâ facie upon representations from the natives, but should refer them to the Collectors. It will be one part of their duty to hear all complaints against the Collectors, and call upon them to answer them. The Committee, in this case, must be ordered to lay a state of their proceedings before the Supreme Council, who will pass such a decision upon them as they think proper. In the same manner, the Supreme Council will exercise a control over both.

It is a very capital defect in this Government, that no system is permanent. Those amongst the natives who have influence, are the first to suggest changes, as they must gain by them; but this continual variation of system introduces distrust and diffidence of the Government amongst all classes; it prevents all inclination to improvement, and makes every man anxious to gather the profits of his hour, lest a new change should deprive him of them.

If the present situation of affairs were in any respect eligible, I should not propose an alteration; but I am convinced it is fundamentally bad; and that the system now proposed, admitting it to be incomplete, will in every respect be infinitely better. I do not however wish to see it introduced, unless with a determination of adhering to it; and if the Government will compel every man to do his duty, by rewarding those who do execute it, and by dismissing those who are incapable or negligent of the performance of it, I may venture to pronounce, that the system itself will answer every object intended by it.

In taking into consideration the management of the revenues, it is necessary at the same time to consider the mode of settlement.

It may not be practicable, considering the settlement formed by the Committee of Revenue, to make any considerable alteration during the present year; but a foundation should be laid, and the plan sketched out at full, and filled up afterwards, as circumstances admit.

It may be pronounced, that upon the whole, the zemindars, who have the greatest rights, are also the properest persons for the management of the revenues of their own districts: some exceptions to this as a general rule will hereafter be pointed out.

I therefore

Digitized by Google

I therefore propofe that the fettlement be made with the zemindars themfelves, and that the amount of the Jumma be irrevocably fixed during the life time of the zemindar.

The affeffment fhould alfo be moderate, and in that cafe the zemindar fhould be compelled to pay it, taking upon himfelf all profits and loffes: if the affeffment is exceffive, there will be either a neceffity to admit an abatement in cafe of lofs, or the lands muft be fold.

The former alternative is the beft; and in that cafe it might be made a rule to fell a portion of the zemindary to make good arrears. I would even limit a day when this operation fhould take place; to the firft day of the fecond month of the new year.

The exceptions againft his rule arife from the incapacity of the zemindars, owing to fex or minority. Both the zemindars of Dinagepore and Burdwan are minors, and wholly incapable at prefent of managing the rents of their own diftricts: in thefe cafes the following modes occur; either to appoint an officer on the part of Government to take the management of the rents, or, to let the lands to farm.

In the former cafe the perfon appointed is only anfwerable for what he actually collects; in the latter cafe, he is refponfible for a certain fum.

If proper perfons fhould be found for the truft, the former mode appears to me preferable; and it may be adopted when the zemindar himfelf has any near relations capable of the truft: the fear of difmiffion will be fome reftraint upon him.

The latter mode alfo has its advantages; but thefe depend alfo upon the choice of the perfons. I would not abfolutely fix upon either, but adopt one or the other as circumftances indicate.

In whatever inftances a farmer is employed, it ought not to be for one year, but for a term; as he ought not to be admitted without fufficient reafon, he ought not to be difpoffeffed merely to make room for another perfon.

Every zemindar has land under the denomination of Bert, Bermooler, &c. which are rent free. For the management of thefe lands, I would propofe that a perfon fhould be nominated by Government, where the diftrict is not left with the zemindar himfelf.

Under every fituation, however, the Government muft take upon themfelves the care of the zemindar's education during his minority: experience teaches, that this truft, when left at the difcretion of their relations, or a farmer, is never executed faithfully. The confequence is, that the zemindars are incapable of managing their lands at the time they are qualified by their age to undertake it.

Digitized by Google

If the Government fix the assessment, they must at the same time fix their own expences. It was formerly remarked, that the habit of this Government to increase its expences was enormous. A comparison of the progress of expence since this remark was made, in the beginning of 1776, will fully verify it.

To conclude: if the plan now recommended for the administration of justice and the management of the revenues, takes place, and if those employed in it are retained in their duty, in the course of two or three years the system, which is now confused and complicated, will become easy and simple, neither difficult to understand, nor embarrassing to perform.

With respect to the expence of this plan, it will not be so great as at present, even after fixing certain profits for the persons employed, by allowing them commission upon the neat collections, which I think the properest mode of paying them: but that this matter may not be left in doubt, the whole detail of the system and expence should precede the adoption of it; and this may be done easily. If these reflections are deemed of sufficient weight to merit consideration, the writer will chearfully embrace the trouble of this detail.

Remark of the Governor General.

N. B. Since the above memorial was written, various parts of the provinces were formed into collectorships and superintendships; such as Raadshai, Burdwan, Rungpore, &c. &c. &c.

Revenue Department.

A true copy.

B. APLIN,

Acting Sec.

Accom-

Digitized by Google

Accompanying Governor General's Minute.

Account of the Total Gross Collections of each Year, from the Year 1179-80, Bengal and Behar Stile, to the Year 1190-1.

YEARS.					RECEIPTS.								TOTAL.			
					Account the Current Year.				Account Balance.							
Bengal Year.		Behar Year.		English Stile.												
1179	or	1180	or	1172-3	2,37,29,763	11	—	3	18,88,226	—	12	1	2,56,17,989	11	13	0
1180	or	1181	or	1773-4	2,35,77,528	10	6	2	18,05,528	6	15	1	2,53,83,057	1	1	3
1181	or	1182	or	1774-5	2,37,20,882	8	6	1	17,40,399	7	19	1	2,54,61,282	0	5	2
1182	or	1183	or	1775-6	2,40,33,296	10	14	2	12,18,176	5	10	3	2,55,51,472	15	15	1
1183	or	1184	or	1776-7	2,36,21,604	8	8	1	13,94,769	—	18	3	2,50,16,373	9	7	0
1184	or	1185	or	1777-8	2,24,30,527	15	13	3	20,78,450	12	1	1	2,45,08,978	11	15	0
1185	or	1186	or	1778-9	2,30,41,818	1	10	1	19,19,747	2	14	3	2,49,61,565	4	5	0
1186	or	1187	or	1779-80	2,31,01,863	3	8	1	15,66,321	13	5	3	2,47,68,185	0	14	0
1187	or	1188	or	1780-1	2,26,82,691	13	17	1	14,24,542	0	10	2	2,41,07,233	14	7	3
1188	or	1189	or	1781-2	2,56,10,873	13	4	1	6,23,989	3	5	1	2,62,34,863	0	9	2
1189	or	1190	or	1782-3	2,47,88,515	15	7	3	6,50,461	11	13	0	2,54,38,977	11	0	3
1190	or	1191	or	1783-4	2,55,22,585	13	14	2	4,49,615	14	17	0	2,57,72,201	12	11	2

Revenue Department. A true copy. Fort William, 18th May 1785. Errors excepted.

R. APLIN, Acting Secretary. (Signed) CHARLES CROFTS, Acct. Gen. to the R. D.

Accompanying Governor General's Minute.

Account shewing the Charges of Collecting in each Year, from the Year 1179-80, *Bengal Behar Stile, to* 1190-1.

YEARS.						Charges of Collecting.	
						Charges.	General Total.
Bengal Year.		Behar Year.		English Stile.	Charges Collection.		
1179	or	1180	or	1772-3	14,08,353 1 15 3	3,55,254 1 8 0	17,63,607 3 3 3
1180	or	1181	or	1773-4	11,03,882 8 0 1	6,43,003 4 1 0	17,46,885 12 1 1
1181	or	1182	or	1774-5	12,47,564 11 11 0	2,72,743 12 0 0	15,20,308 7 11 0
1182	or	1183	or	1775-6	14,72,292 14 5 2	2,75,830 7 11 2	17,48,123 5 17 0
1183	or	1184	or	1776-7	14,83,864 4 9 1	2,81,959 6 14 3	17,65,823 11 4 0
1184	or	1185	or	1777-8	18,30,413 1 0 3	3,64,147 1 13 1	21,94,560 2 14 0
1185	or	1186	or	1778-9	18,49,665 14 11 3	3,44,754 15 14 2	21,94,420 14 6 1
1186	or	1187	or	1779-80	18,81,061 3 11 0	3,41,075 2 10 3	22,22,136 6 1 3
1187	or	1188	or	1780-1	19,54,233 4 10 1	5,67,694 5 2 2	25,21,927 9 12 3
1188	or	1189	or	1781-2	18,71,250 8 0 0	2,85,635 10 8 0	21,56,886 2 8 0
1189	or	1190	or	1782-3	18,45,017 3 8 3	3,15,036 0 16 1	21,60,053 4 5 0
1190	or	1191	or	1783-4	24,39,176 8 19 0	3,50,557 0 18 1	27,89,733 9 17 1

Fort William, 18th May 1785. Errors excepted. (Signed) CHARLES CROFTS, Acct. Gen. to the R. D.

Ordered, That they be accordingly sent in circulation.

Extract of Bengal Revenue Consultations, the 11th July, 1785.

Mr. Stuart lays before the Board the following Minute:

Mr. Stuart.

I have perused the Governor General's minute of the 18th of May 1785, on the subject of the revenues: and although he does not agree with me in all the points proposed in my plan for the future management of the collections, yet I am happy to find, that our opinions are the same with respect to the appointment of Collectors or Superintendants in all the districts; which I consider the most important object of the system which I wish to see carried into execution. I should have been glad that the Governor General had also agreed with me in the other leading principle of my plan, viz. the union of the powers of the magistrate and collector; because I have formerly had an opportunity of witnessing the good effects arising from the junction of those offices. The Governor General's only objection is, "that he does "not think we are sufficiently advanced to risque the con- "sequences of vesting so unchecked a power generally in "the hands of our servants;" but if they are trust-worthy in one department, they are certainly so in both. At present, the collectors and magistrates are by no means checks upon each other; and Government does not possess a greater degree of control over them individually, than they would do were the two authorities united.

The Governor General states, That by the account annexed to his minute, it appears that the gross collections have been more, by several lacks, during the time of the Committee than at any former period; but if it be allowed, that the charges have been more than proportionably increased (which they certainly have been in consequence of the system now existing) a loss no doubt ultimately falls upon Government by such unnecessary increase; from which there is no relief but by a change of the measures which created it. The Governor General observes, that the increase in the article of charges collection, may more properly be called "the increasing ex- "pences of Government, than the increased expence of "collecting the revenue:" but as I have shewn by my plan, that a saving can be made of sixteen lacks of rupees, besides providing in the most liberal manner for the collectors, I must still think, that the increase in the charges has proceeded *solely from the institution of useless revenue establishments:* and supposing the additional allowances

 which

which I proposed for the collectors were not granted, the saving in that case by my plan, would be about twenty-five lacks per annum; a sum very little short of the total increase in the article of charges collection, which has gradually been accumulating since the year 1772, from rupees 41,56,970. 18. 2. to rupees 71,29,093. 14. 4. 1. as stated in the account accompanying the Governor General's minute. — In judging of two systems, that which shall appear to be the most advantageous to Government, certainly deserves the preference. That the old system is therefore best, appears from the following account of the actual receipts into the Company's treasury for twelve years successively, extracted from the papers delivered in by the Governor General with his minute of the 18th of May. In my plan, the neat collections appear to be erroneously stated, owing to some oversight or omission; but this account, formed from official documents, recently prepared, affords the most authentic information, and shews more clearly than the other account, the propriety of the change which I proposed.

Years

Digitized by Google

Years.	Current Collections.	Collected Account Balances.	Gross Collection.	Charges Collection.	Actual Receipts into the Treasury.
1772-3 —	2,37,29,763 11 3 0	18,88,226 12 1 0	2,56,17,989 11 3 0	41,56,970 9 18 2	2,14,61,019 1 14 2
1773-4 —	2,35,77,528 10 6 2	18,05,528 6 15 1	2,53,83,057 1 1 3	43,02,596 1 10 2	2,10,80,460 15 11 1
1774-5 —	2,37,20,882 8 6 1	17,40,399 7 9 1	2,54,61,282 5 2 0	41,51,272 13 15 0	2,13,10,009 2 10 2
1775-6 —	2,40,33,296 10 4 2	12,18,176 5 10 3	2,55,51,472 15 15 1	45,07,471 15 1 1	2,10,44,001 0 14 0
1776-7 —	2,36,21,604 8 8 1	13,94,769 0 18 3	2,50,16,373 9 7 0	49,05,739 5 13 1	2,01,10,434 3 14 3
1777-8 —	2,24,30,527 15 13 3	20,79,450 12 1 1	2,45,08,978 11 15 0	53,80,818 5 3 0	1,91,28,160 11 9 1
1778-9 —	2,30,41,818 1 10 1	19,19,747 2 14 3	2,49,61,565 4 5 0	56,45,946 13 5 2	1,93,15,618 6 19 2
1779-80 —	2,37,01,863 3 8 1	15,66,321 13 5 3	2,47,68,185 0 14 0	56,80,637 2 1 0	1,90,83,547 14 13 0
1780-81 —	2,26,82,691 13 17 1	14,24,542 0 10 2	2,41,07,233 14 7 3	60,98,510 3 5 3	1,80,08,723 11 2 0
1781-2 —	2,56,10,873 13 4 1	6,23,989 3 5 1	2,62,34,863 0 9 2	66,55,869 7 16 0	1,95,78,993 8 13 2
1782-3 —	2,47,88,515 15 7 3	6,50,471 11 13 0	2,54,38,977 11 0 3	59,63,660 14 5 0	1,94,75,316 12 15 3
1783-4 —	2,53,22,585 13 14 2	4,49,915 14 17 0	2,57,72,291 12 11 2	71,29,093 14 4 1	1,86,43,107 14 7 1

Digitized by Google

With regard to the expected reduction from the abolition of collectorships, I doubt much whether there will be much real saving by adopting this measure, seeing that there is but little difference between the salaries drawn by the collectors, and the pensions which they and their assistants will be allowed, by the subsequent regulations, on their recal.

I am very happy to learn, that the acting President of the Committee of revenue is satisfied that the balance of this year will be trifling, though I confess my expectations on this head are not very sanguine. At the conclusion of my plan I stated the probable balance at thirty lacks of Rupees; and now that the last Towjee account of the Bengal year is closed, let us see how it actually stands, according to the one delivered in for the month of Cheyte.

The balance of the Huzzoory Mahls exclusive of transfers, bills, pauts, &c. — — —					11,54,274			
Add amount bills and pauts not yet paid, according to the account delivered in by the sub accomptant, viz.								
Tunkaaws -	2,85,077		1	10				
Suspensions -	1,26,845	7	1	2				
Bills receivable	15,283	1	12	2				
					4,27,205	10	4	0
Muffussil balance according to the Towjee account for Cheyte -					9,64,520	8	12	2
Balance outstanding for 1191-2 exclusive of the Behar* balance, which cannot be ascertained till September next - - Sa. Rs.					25,46,000	7	17	1

* *N. B.* The amount due from Behar, between the present time and close of the Behar year, is Sa. Rs. 27,67,705. 14. 1. 1.

It will be said, perhaps, that the amount of the tunkaws, bills, &c. stated above, cannot be considered as a part of the balance, because they are in course of payment; but as the actual collections of last year have long since ceased, the above sum must therefore be paid out of the resources of the next year; a practice by no means justifiable, although I understand it has prevailed more or less for several years past

The Board not having thought it expedient to make any change in the present revenue system, I shall, notwith-

Digitized by Google

standing my disapprobation of it, concur most heartily with my colleagues in every measure that may be judged likely to contribute towards its success. With respect to the allowances lately granted to the collectors, I do not disapprove of the amount of them, but I wish they had been contrived to arise either out of a saving by the abolition of unnecessary revenue establishments, as proposed in my plan, or from any source in preference to that of increasing the demands upon the country, which is evidently not the object of Government at home; and which is contrary to one of the leading principles in the system which I proposed.

The objection which the Governor General states against "the controlling authority of a member of the Board in "the revenue department," viz. "the want of time," is easily answered: although there is a meeting of the Council almost every day in the week, yet the members seldom assemble till towards noon; so that the comptrolling member could with ease give up two or three hours every day, if necessary, to attend to the business of his department.

I have thought it necessary to make these observations, not with a view to bring the question which I formerly proposed again before the Board, but merely to support the system which it was my wish to see introduced; and because I thought then, and still continue to think, it is the best that can be adopted by this government for the interest of our employers.

(Signed) C. STUART.

10th July, 1785.

Agreed that the preceding minute lie for consideration.

REVENUES.

For a complete knowledge of the subject of this charge, see the whole of the Select Committee's Sixth Report and Appendix—See also Censures of the Directors, vol. i. p. 3, 8, 9, 10, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 78, and 79.

MISDE-

Digitized by Google

CHARGE XVI.

MISDEMEANORS IN OUDE.

The papers relative to this charge are to be found under charge iv.

CHARGE XVII.

MOHAMMED REZA KHAN.

See Fifth Report of Select Committee and Appendix, No. vi.—*Also the Ninth Report; and Censures of the Directors*, vol. i. p. 5, 6, 56, 57, and 58.

Digitized by Google

BLASTING THE SICS.

Conf. 14. Dec. 1784.

December 4th 1784.

Governor General,

The other Members of the Board cannot have such grounds of knowledge as I derive from long intercourse, and almost local inspection in the state of Hindostan, and the strength and probable views of its different rulers; but I have no right to complain, if they exercise that which they undoubtedly possess, of judging for themselves. Yet let me observe, that every information from every officer of the army, who either is or may hope to be eventually employed on that service, which I have declared to be an unnecessary incumbrance on the country of which it is professedly the defence, and as unnecessary an expence to the Company, ought to be wholly rejected, unless supported by undeniable evidence; neither can I admit in this case the advice of the Commander in Chief—he is most certainly the competent judge of the sufficiency of any given force for any actual service to be performed, or for repelling any expected invasion, provided the strength of the enemy be previously ascertained,; but of the necessity or expediency of employing any force in the cases supposed, or of the existence of such cases, the Board itself is at least equally competent to judge, and alone to determine: I for my own part profess to require no such reference; but if the Board is of opinion that it be made, I do not object, only declaring, that my opinion cannot be bound by the result.

In the mean time, as I shall be ready at all times to accommodate my opinion to those of the Board, which may be decidedly against them in cases which will admit of delay, modification, or alternative, with little regard to the injury which my own influence may sustain by the public disavowal or repeal of acts done under my authority, merely as it may affect my own feelings; I am willing on this occasion to suspend the effects of my order, by writing to Major Palmer to suppress it, or, if he shall have already transmitted it, by writing in a like manner to Colonel Cumming, to suspend the execution of it; and will agree to leave the final confirmation or repeal of it to the future judgement of the Board.

The Board will find my grounds for the conviction of the little cause there is to apprehend any treachery from Ma-

Digitized by Google

Madajee Sindia, fully detailed in my Report now prepared for their inspection of my proceedings with relation to the Prince Mirza Jehander Shah. To these I will add another, which though of no recent impression, escaped my attention at the instant: a solemn peace has been concluded betwen the Maratta State and the Company, cemented by a separate treaty with Mahdajee Sindia. If he violates these combined obligations, he will not only forfeit the credit of his own faith, but commit an act of the most criminal offence against the general state, of which he is a member; unless it be supposed that he acts on a plan concerted with the other members of it, or has been so instructed by them, which is against probability, since it is neither likely that such a design, with so many privy to it, could be secret, nor that the Chiefs of so many loose dependencies of a Sovereign in his minority, should so easily reconcile their discordant interests as to agree in such a confederacy, and so heartily unite in it as to conceal it from public knowledge. In effect, it is generally understood to be a fact well ascertained, that great misunderstandings have subsisted between them, and that all are jealous of Sindia, both on account of his power and connections.

He is the ruling power in the countries which border on the dominions of the Nabob Vizier, or on that quarter of our own — In effect there is no other power. He has committed no act which can be construed as hostile to our Government, or leading to hostility, or indicating the intention of it; and his presence, so near to the borders of the dominion of the Nabob Vizier, is so far from being a just cause of suspicion, that it is the effect of my own solicitation to him, and is so far the effect of an act of this Government. There is therefore no cause for keeping up two armies in a season of established peace, and no enemy near, to defend the dominions of the Nabob Vizier, who declares the one alone to be sufficient, and that he can maintain no more; nor has this Government any right to force the defence, with its maintenance, upon him.

I forbear to state this argument in its extent, at which it would not be easy to reply to it; and I fear to aggravate, where I profess a desire to conciliate.

If the other Members of the Board see, or think they see, grounds for alarm, which I cannot see, and shall still resolve to detain the detachment in its present state, they have the power of deciding, and I must submit; but hope that they will not insist on loading the Nabob Vizier with the charge, until the Court of Directors shall have been

Digitized by Google

been apprized of all the circumstances of the measure, and passed their decision upon it.

I feel the sense of an obligation imposed on me, by the supposition which I have made, to state a mode of rendering the detachment of use in its prescribed station, and affording the appearance of a cause for its retention. I most reluctantly anticipate the occasion, to which I can never on any account give my consent, that the Court of Directors may receive the earliest notice both of the resolution of the Board on the original question, and of the purpose to which it is the intention of the Board to apply it; this will lead to a discussion for which I am unprepared, and had reserved for a period of leisure, for the deliberate and wary examination of the subject, and for the disclosure of such events as might demand an immediate decision upon it.

I must repeat, that the instant dispatch of the Surprize, and the expectation of her speedy arrival in England, probably within the course of four months, induce me to make this premature exposition of a new political scene which will merit the early attention of the Court of Directors, with every intermediate circumstance relating to it, which can eventually depend upon the resolutions of the Board, that their orders thereon may be received at the commencement of the next fair season, or at least that such an option be offered them to convey them within that period.

I have already said, that there is now no power, which can be properly so called, in that part of Hindostan which borders on the dominions of the Company and their ally the Nabob Vizier; but this affirmation, though strictly true with relation to the question of present danger, must be taken solely in that restrictive application of it. A new source of serious contemplation has arisen from a nearer quarter, namely, that of the Sics, a people who, from a mean set of religious schismatics, have rapidly grown into the members of a dominion, extending from the most western branch of the Attoch to the walls of Delhy; its present state is too contemptible to be an object of apprehension to any force that could be opposed to it but the King's, who derives as much of his present weakness from their encroachments, as from the usurpations of his own servants, which have excited them: they are, by their bodily frame and habits of life, eminently suited to the military profession; but this propensity is qualified by a spirit of independence, which is a great check to its exertion: every village has its separate and distinct ruler, acknowledging no control, but that of the people of his own immediate community, who, in their turn, yield him little more than nominal

minal submission. I remember when my inquiries led me to the knowledge of five independent sovereigns residing in the same city of Lahore; though exposed from this cause to a continual state of internal warfare, they are all prompt at the call of common danger, at which they will, without difficulty, abandon their mutual contests, to join in repelling it; returning, when the danger is past, with the same facility to their former contests. A constitution so framed may subsist unchanged for a length of time, while it has no powerful neighbours to invade it, and while it remains confined within the limits of its native territory; but when it aims at permanent conquests, and carries the principles of its own construction into new establishments, it becomes liable to almost certain variation, from whatever rules they may adopt for the distribution of territory, or appropriation of revenue; because both must introduce a new species of property, and add to the individual power which becomes possessed of it. In such a change of polity, should it so happen that one man of superior capacity and enterprize, aided by the spirit of religious enthusiasm, of which there are many examples in the modern history of India, and two even in the infancy of the nation which I am describing, should acquire but a few degrees of power beyond his nearest competitors, it will be easy to trace, in the primitive defects of such a Government, the gradual and easy means by which the whole might be enveloped within his own supremacy; such will probably be the effect of the extinction of the present empire, which is rapidly approaching to it, and may give birth to a new dominion ascending from its ashes.

For some years past the Sics, quitting their predatory incursions, have fixed themselves in the lands which submitted to them, appointing collectors of their revenues, and officers for their Government. No opposition was made to them; the only instance in which it was attempted, was in the year 1779, when the Minister Miyed u Dowlah marched from Delhy with an army of 30,000 men to attack them, and without the sight of an enemy, purchased an ignominious retreat. They obtained quiet possession of the Purgunnah of Sheumler, one of the King's personal domains, lying within thirty coss of Delhy, while I was at Lucknow, and carried their depredations to the very suburbs of Delhy, where two of their officers actually reside in a quarter called the Subsee Mimdee, which is chiefly occupied by shroffs and shopkeepers, for the double purpose of levying their rauky (which is the name given to that species of contribution) and of protecting the inhabitants from the marauders of their own nation.

Digitized by Google

We are too apt to despise the danger which we have not experienced, and to conclude, that what has not happened in the ordinary course of events, never will happen; on such a presumption, my conclusions may expose me to the ridicule of those who may deem them the mere effusion of a wild imagination. I am willing to submit to this consequence, if the event which I have foreboded shall be prevented by seasonable means of opposition; but I trust to time, and that not distant, for verifying my prediction, if this people is permitted to grow into maturity without interruption.

I now proceed to shew the present means by which this interruption may be effected, and another point of some consequence attained with it.

I have mentioned in my report of the 1st instant, that it was one part of the Prince's plan to offer his services to the King, to be employed against the Sics. The battalions which the Nabob Vizier has allowed for his escort cannot attend him beyond the Nabob's own frontier. If he carries them farther, he must provide their pay and subsistence, as their place must of course in that case be supplied by other levies, for which there is no other provision than that which is allotted to his actual establishment. This condition is in effect an insuperable bar to their employment; nor would it be prudent to trust his fortune on the first trial of it to the rabble of his father's army, unpaid, and accustomed to disregard command. If the station at Futteghur must be continued, the detachment cannot be better employed, either in whole or part, than on service with the Prince. It will more effectually keep the Sics at a distance, by advancing with such an influence to attack them, than by waiting within its own sphere of defence to repel them. I must here inform the Board, that the Prince repeatedly and earnestly solicited me to endeavour to obtain their authority, for he knew the extent of my own, for such an employment of the detachment. I discouraged the expectation, but promised to communicate his requisition.

I will confess, that the apprehension of his return upon our protection; the desire of executing the arduous task which the Board were pleased to assign me; and a yet stronger impulse, arising from the hope of blasting the growth of a generation whose strength might become fatal to our own, strongly pleaded in my mind for supporting his wishes. But to these I opposed the more urgent consideration of the Company's distresses, and their solemn call upon us to relieve them; and I had resolved to report to the Board the Prince's request, but at the same time to state my objections to it, which, in my judgement,

Digitized by Google

ment, outweigh the advantages that might arise from a compliance with it.

I chuse in this place to observe, that the actual expence of the detachment is 1,88,705 current rupees per month, or 22,64,466 per annum, of which 81,030 current rupees per month, or 9,72,360 per annum, are the extra expences of the staff, field, batta, and contingencies, which belong to it as a detached corps, and which would cease with its reduction; besides that, it would facilitate the reduction of the strength of the army.

But if the expence is to be continued, it may be surely better continued for some useful purpose than to keep up the parade of a great military corps, designed merely to lie inactive in its quarters.

On this ground therefore, and on the supposition premised, I revert to my original sentiments in favour of the Prince's plan; but as this will require some qualification in the execution of it, I will state my recommendation of it in the terms of a proposition, viz.—That if it shall be the resolution of the Board to continue the detachment now under the command of Colonel Sir John Cumming at Furruckabad, and if the Prince Merza Jehander Shah shall apply, with the authority of the King and the concurrence of Madajee Scindia, for the assistance of an English military force to act in conjunction with him, to expel the Sics from the territories of which they have lately possessed themselves in the neighbourhood of Delhy, it may be granted, and such a portion of the said detachment allotted to that service as shall be hereafter judged adequate to it.

(Signed) WARREN HASTINGS.

A true copy. E. HAY, Secretary.

MOGUL TO MAHRATTAS.

See Appendix to the Supplement to the Second Report of the Select Committee, Number I. Letter to Col. Muir, dated September 10, 1781, *or the Appendix. Major Brown's letter of December* 30, 1783, *and Mr. Hastings's two letters from Lucknow, dated May* 4 *and June* 16, 1784, *were refused to Mr. Burke by the Minister; but as copious extracts contained in the charge have not been controverted by Mr. Hastings in his Defence, they are to be considered as authenticated.*

CHARGE XIX.

LIBEL ON THE DIRECTORS.

See vol. I. *p.* 100 *and* 102, *for the letter here charged as a libel. See also Censures of the Directors, vol.* I. *p.* 21.

MAHRATTA

MAHRATTA PEACE.

To the Honourable William Hornby, Esquire, President, &c. Select Committee at Bombay.

Gentlemen,

Our regret at the unfrequency, or perhaps unavoidable interruption of your correspondence with us upon the affairs of your presidency, is proportioned to our anxiety for their prosperity, and the critical relation which the conduct of those affairs now bears to the general fortune of Britain in India.

From the commencement of the Maratta war this Government, under even a change of opinion, had but one line of pursuit, and that was directed to peace. The difference of opinion extended only to the ground upon which that peace should be established and secured. In the first stage of the war, the ruling opinion of this Government, diffident either of the principle upon which it was begun, or of the force with which you conducted it, interposed its pacific check. In the subsequent and actual stage of the war, it was the wish of this Government to enable you to conduct it to an honourable and advantageous termination; a termination which was connected with the proper establishment of the reputation of your arms, and the necessary exclusion of our natural enemies from any footing in your neighbourhood.

It is neither our meaning, nor of present utility, to enter into any discussions of retrospect, much less of accusation. The public interest calls for other measures; and these should be, the union of every sentiment and every ability to make the best of our actual situation, and to secure the public safety amidst the attacks of our numerous enemies.

The late positive ord rs of our employers, in their commands of the 11th of April last, are, to conclude a peace with the Marattas at all events, and to carry the war from your coast into the dominions of Hyder Ali, the avowed ally of our natural enemies, and the most dangerous invader of our possessions.

From the necessity of the times, and obvious line of policy, which dictated those injunctions of our employers, a letter was addressed to you on the 11th September last, signed

Digitized by Google

signed by Lord Macartney, Sir Eyre Coote, Sir Edward Hughes, and Mr. John Macpherson; that letter was transmitted through the Maratta minister at Poonah, and it was left to their pleasure to forward it or not, as they adopted the conditions upon which it was to claim your attention.

In October last we addressed to you a letter through the communication of our Governor General, who was then at Benares, and whom we vested with the fullest powers of this Government to correspond with you upon the subject of a peace to be concluded with the administration at Poonah.

Copies of the joint letter from Fort St. George of the 11th of September last—of the letter upon the same occasion to the Peshwah—of the letter from the Court of Directors in April last—and of our letter to the Governor General in October, and of that addressed by us to you through him, as well as of his instructions to Mr. Anderson, who is appointed Minister Plenipotentiary upon the part of this Government to Poonah, go numbers with this letter.

The purpose and object of those respective papers is clear and definitive. We communicate them to you to impress more forcibly, if possible, upon your minds the general wish, both here and at home, to conclude a peace with the Marattas, and prosecute the war more vigorously against Hyder Ali. The separate peace which has been concluded with Scindia will certainly facilitate both those objects: but the first object is become daily more interesting, as experience convinces us that no military efforts from the coast of Coromandel can repel Hyder from the Carnatic, while that country can afford no subsistence to our army, and while the enemy has undisturbed supplies from his own extensive dominions in his rear.

In this situation, not all the provisions and extra revenue and credit which this Government is able to supply can do more, even when we command the sea, than subsist the army upon the coast of Coromandel, and enable it to march through the desolated tracts of the Carnatic, to meet the enemy where he chooses to stand, and relieve those interior fortresses, which, should they once fall under the dominion of Hyder, would advance the limits of his empire almost to the walls of Fort St. George.

Our enemy may now be said to interpose the Carnatic as a desert between him and our vengeance from that quarter, with the advantage upon his part of keeping us continually in the field, without our having the power to improve our situation, even when we defeat him; but with this momentous disadvantage upon our side, that while we are

are thus situated upon the coast of Coromandel, our European enemies may, if they come in superior naval force, unite with Hyder, to starve us out of our strongest hold in the country. Is there no extrication from this dilemma? We trust there is; nor does there seem to be a moment to lose to decide about the necessary measures for this important end.

It is obvious to the plainest judgement, that the first necessary step to the relief of the Carnatic must be an interruption to these supplies which enable Hyder Ali to keep the field with such decided advantages. The quere then is, Whether it is most expedient to leave our posts in the Carnatic unprotected, and, while we are superior at sea, to embark our troops from Fort St. George to invade Hyder upon his own coast? or, supposing it should be found impracticable to effect a peace with the Marattas by any formal stipulations; that you should relinquish all the countries upon the Continent that you cannot maintain, if a considerable part of your army is withdrawn; and, that after garrisoning Bombay and other posts effectually, that you should, with the remainder of your forces, make an exertion against Hyder Ali where he is most vulnerable, in his own dominions?

In a political situation, such as we are in at present, it is often necessary, without yielding to any despondence, to have in view the worst turn that affairs may be likely to, or can possibly take, in order to be prepared for the event.

Let us then suppose that every advance we make to peace with the Maratta administration shall only tend to raise their demands, and encourage their insolence; that they may exact conditions which we cannot in honour accede to; and that while Ragoba is, in any shape, under our protection, or the administration which first espoused his cause continued at Bombay, the ministers at Poona may not think themselves sure in any peace that our present necessities may dictate.

Let us suppose farther, that their connection with Hyder, or even their hopes from the aid of France, may encourage them to look beyond the recovery of those possessions which they have lost in the war; and, in a word, that neither our management in negociation, or the fears of our resentment, can obtain for us an immediate peace with Poona: under these suppositions, the most unfavourable that can be advanced, it is of moment to determine, whether our withdrawing from the Maratta war, under the reputable cover of orders from home, is not preferable to the carrying it on feebly,—while a war, not of conquest, but of self-defence, presses hard upon the existence of our influence

Digitized by Google

influence in a quarter where, if the influence is lost, it cannot be so easily regained as in your neighbourhood.

To suppose that this Presidency, or the abilities of the Company, can support the Maratta war, so as by conquest (at the expence General Goddard has stated) to enforce a peace, and at the same time defray the expences of the defensive war in the Carnatic, is to suppose an impossibility, and under visionary hopes to embrace a system that would inevitably endanger all our possessions in India.

If this position then is true, it follows clearly, that if we cannot effect an immediate peace with the administration of Poona, we ought, in prudence, and independent even of the command of our employers, to desist from the Maratta contest at all events, and turn our whole force against Hyder.

The solid principle upon which such a determination becomes necessary, is this:—If the Carnatic is lost, our enemies must be immoveably established there, and the valuable possessions of this Government are afterwards exposed, notwithstanding their natural security, to the operations of an enemy most advantageously situated; an enemy that might then choose its season of attack, if superior at sea, or successful in raising enemies upon our western and northern frontiers.

Whereas, if every place and possession dependant on the island of Bombay was lost, future efforts, supported from the Carnatic and this country, might regain them at any favourable crisis.

We have thus, gentlemen, we hope, with attentive and unpresuming discussion, gone over the ground of a very interesting alternative, which presents itself in our present involved situation.

Prepared for every disappointment that can happen in the present general hostility that is armed against us, we wish to avoid delusive systems of hope; but we are fortified against either despondence, or an undignified and timid pursuit of peace.

From a separate letter we address to you, it will appear, that we are anxious to have an exact state of your debts, of your actual resources and disbursements, and likewise of your probable resources and disbursements for the ensuing year, with the best estimate you can send us of the investment you mean to send home to the Company, and an account of the bills you have drawn upon them. We have requested the same information from the Presidency of Fort St. George.

With these lights before us, and a view of our own resources and necessary disbursements, we shall have a pretty just

Digitized by Google

just idea of the faculties which the Company possesses, to carry on the contests in which they are engaged.

Confident that our zeal, if not our management, shall entitle us to the fair opinion of our country, and resolved rigidly to retrench every possible expence that can be saved, consistent with the most vigorous system of carrying on unavoidable branches of the war, we shall have no apprehension of wanting resources, while the property of our fellow subjects in this country, and the credit not only of our immediate employers, but of the power that constituted our present authority, can command finance.

The object that is at stake is the preservation of India to Great Britain, with those consequent advantages which the Asiatic dominions of the state may hereafter be capacitated to refund for the relief of the whole empire.

In the exertions to maintain so valuable a branch of the empire, a great and enlightened nation will soon discriminate the merit of real services, from either the parade of affected zeal, or that cold reserve of duty which hedges itself within the letter of orders, while public ruin is accumulating.

Permit us to hope, gentlemen, that, sensible of the general danger, and animated with a consequent zeal, you will assist us cordially in the great object which we have thus variously stated to you, that of effecting, either by a defensive system with the Marattas, and an offensive plan of operation against Hyder, the essential purposes of a peace with the former, and a war with the latter.

Should Major General Meadows (who deserves so well of the Company in particular, and of his country in general, for resolving to come to the relief of India) arrive upon your coast, you will find him very able and willing to co-operate with you upon this system; and should any untoward accident prevent the speedy and safe arrival of Mr. Anderson at Poonah, you and General Goddard will please to peruse most attentively along with this letter, the Governor General's instructions to Mr. Anderson, as well as the instructions to Mr. Chapman, who is deputed to Nagpoor, you will then comprehend fully the decided and united wishes and resolutions of this Government.

You will observe particularly, that the Governor General's instructions go to a cession of all that *can be yielded for peace.* To deliver up Ragoba, or annul our treaty with Futty Sing, he justly considers as conditions that cannot be granted, from the public dishonour which such acts would stamp upon our national character. An *assent* to have such a dishonour connected with the reputation of English Councils, would be weakness, and that weakness would occasion new and unanswerable demands. But it is the

Digitized by Google

the address of negociation, and the wisdom of states to contrive, in difficulties such as these, a remedy that may obviate the embarrassment, and yet preserve every necessary dignity of proceeding. From General Goddard's letter to your Board from Surat, in September last, it appears that Ragoba was in separate negociation with the ministers of Poonah for a maintenance to himself, and he has upon many former occasions shewn a wish to leave you. Those wishes might not only be permitted, but indulged and encouraged, and, in that event, the obstacle removes itself. The conduct of Futty Sing must be singularly meritorious as a native ally, if occasions do not occur where the annulling of the treaty would not be his own act and deed. In a word, gentlemen, when the wishes of a Government correspond forcibly with the public necessity, difficulties such as these we have supposed are made to vanish; and in the question we have thus discussed, there is one evident and relieving alternative which we have already stated—a defensive relinquishment of the Maratta contest upon your side of India, which is in a manner tantamount to a peace with them by any formal surrender of all your continental acquisitions. Nor let us be disinclined to this alternative, from false ideas relative to those reflections which may in general be thrown out regarding the supposed misfortunes, mismanagements, and losses of this war from the beginning.

Were we disposed to enter into such discussion, observations might not be found wanting, to shew that good as well as evil consequences have followed from the war. One consequence has, we hope, certainly followed, and which is of infinite importance; that is, the tranquillity of these provinces from Maratta invasion, maintained during the war, and probably secured in future, from the impression which our arms have made in the heart of Hindostan.

In the preceding view of this question, it cannot escape you, that we have supposed the most unfavourable possible turn to the negociation. We have done so purposely to leave no room for a misconception of our wishes; and that you should be prepared to adapt your measures to the general system, in the worst event of the Maratta negociation. Our real hopes are, that our Governor General shall, before this letter arrives at Bombay, have concluded not only a peace with the Poona administration, but have arranged with them a treaty offensive against Hyder. We know that the ministers at Poonah have exhausted their treasures in the continuance of the war: that it has been a most ruinous war to their whole general system of controul over the revenues of India: but the Maratta empire is now

Digitized by Google

now broken, and we trust for ever, into separate states; and they have suffered so much in the dispute, that they will avoid war with us in future, and what is more essential, be so deterred from any European connection, that our natural enemies must remain excluded from any alliance with them that could be hurtful to our possessions.

To avoid the evils we apprehend from a continuance of the Maratta war, in our present situation with other enemies, and to avail ourselves of every advantage that your co-operation can give to the general system of affairs, is the ardent object of this full and candid address; as well as to obviate every possible embarrassment that may be created by a difference of opinion, or a reference to what is past, against our present operations.

We trust that our labour is not in vain, and that what is dictated by a most anxious zeal for the general relief of our affairs, will not be perverted to any little purpose of remark, but carry an effectual impression to your Councils.

We observe to you, more for the sake of that form which candour requires, than from any possible apprehension that we shall have occasion to disprove of your future measures, or find fault with your inactivity, that we are unanimously and unalternately resolved to exert every authority of this Government to enforce a correspondence of political system in all the Presidencies, and upon the foundation of the Company's orders; nor, in case of evident failure or neglect in any branch, shall we think a common proceeding sufficient. Before that power to which we wish our own conduct to be submitted, and which established our controling authority, we are determined to hold forth, under special accusation, whatever conduct may, in our opinion, merit to be impeached.

Happy shall we be, on the other hand, to have occasion of marking to the notice of the Company and our country, those measures which may reflect lustre upon the discharge of the trust with which you are vested, and which, in the present most interesting situation of the present state must, in the sensibility connected with a conscious fidelity and zeal, convey a gratification beyond every other advantage that situation can obtain or bestow.

We have, &c.

*

(Signed) Governor General and Council.

Fort William,
26th December 1781.

* Signed by Mr. Wheler and Mr. Macpherson.

Digitized by Google

See the whole of the Secret Committee—Sixth Report and Appendix. Also the Appendix to the 5th Report, Number 116.

CHARGE XXI.

CORRESPONDENCE.

See the Appendix to the 5th Report of the Secret Committee, Number 2, paragraphs 2 and 37.

P FYZULA

Digitized by Google

FYZULA KHAN.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, 30th June 1783.

Read the following letters from Mr. Bristow:

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I have been honoured by the receipt of your letter of the 23d ultimo, explaining your intentions relative to Major Palmer's negociation with Fyzoola Cawn, and, in obedience to your commands, communicated them to the Vizier; and I have now the pleasure to inform you of his acquiescence in your sentiments, and to enclose to you a copy of the instructions I in consequence, and agreeably to the Vizier's directions, transmitted to Major Palmer for his future guidance, as also translations of two letters addressed to the Nabob Fyzulla Cawn, from his Excellency and myself.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW,
Resdt. at the Vizier's Court.

Lucknow,
9th February 1783.

(COPY.)

To Major William Palmer, on a Deputation to the Nabob Fyzoola Cawn.

SIR,

I have received your letters of the 15th, 18th, and 24th ultimo, and delayed answering them until I might be honoured with the commands of the honourable the Governor General. I now take the liberty to forward you a copy of their letter of the 23d ultimo, the particulars of which, and of your representations, I have submitted to the Vizier's consideration.

His Excellency has thought proper to acquiesce in the propositions made by the honourable Governor General and Council, and it is his request that you will endeavour to conclude an agreement with the Nabob Fyzoola Cawn, upon the plan proposed in their said letter. It appears, from circumstances which Alliff Cawn * has communicated to me, that his master entertains doubts of the powers

* The Nabob Fyzoola Cawn's vacqueel at Lucknow.

Digitized by Google

powers vested in you. In order to put an entire stop to any misapprehension on so material a point, I forward you a letter from the Vizier, accompanied by one from myself to the Nabob Fyzoola Cawn, explaining the authorities granted to you, the entire confidence placed in your zeal, and that you are to be considered "as the sole manager of "the negociation." I hope this explanation will prevent any appeals, except through the channel of your representations, and also give consequence and weight to your character. The enclosed Persian papers, N° 1, 2, and 3, are the copies of the letters to the Nabob Fyzoola Cawn, together with one I have received from him. If you should deem any farther explanations necessary, I will, with great pleasure, apply for them to his Excellency the Vizier.

Allif Cawn has informed me, "that the Nabob Fyzoola "Cawn directed him to represent the difficulty he should "have, in even furnishing the sum of five lacks of rupees; if he were to assent to your proposition of twenty "lacks, it would not be possible for him to complete the "payment in the course of twenty years. He orders "Allif Cawn to endeavour to settle an agreement at "Lucknow for the said sum of five lacks of rupees, in "consideration of which he shall be released from military "aid.

"The Nabob Fyzoola Cawn complains of the distresses "he has this year suffered from the drought. The whole "collections have, with great management, amounted to "about twelve lacks of rupees, from which sum he has "to support his troops, his family, and several relations "and dependants of the late Rohilla Chiefs. He says, it "clearly appears to be intended to deprive him of his "country, as the high demand you have made of him is "inadmissible. Should he have assented to it, it would be "impossible to perform the conditions, and then his reputation would be injured by a breach of agreement. Allif Cawn farther represents, that it is his master's intention, in case the demands should not be relinquished by "you, first to proceed to Lucknow, where he purposes "having an interview with the Vizier and the Resident: "if he should not be able to obtain his own terms for the "future possession of his jaghire, he will set off for Calcutta, in order to pray for justice from the Honourable "the Governor General. He observes it is the custom of "the Honourable Company, when they deprive a Chief of "his country, to grant him some allowance; this he expects from Mr. Hastings's bounty, but if he should be "disappointed, he will certainly set off upon a pilgrimage "to Mecca and Medina; and renounce the cares of the "world.

"The

Digitized by Google

The Nabob Fyzoola Cawn concludes his appeal, by obſerving, " when I had formerly the honour to hold the " ſtation of reſident at the Vizier's Court, my profeſſions " to him were polite, and now is the time to put my ſin- " cerity to the teſt, by means of my interceſſion and in- " fluence with the Honourable Governor General, and re- " commending ſuch demands ſhould be made as were poſ- " ſible for him to perform. Whatever he may promiſe he " will fulfil: he directs his vacqueel to aſcertain, whether " the Engliſh intend to deprive him of his country; for if " they do, he is ready to ſurrender it, upon receiving an " order from the Reſident."

I thought it my duty to communicate to you every particular regarding the Nabob Fyzoola Cawn's repreſentations; and it is my anxious wiſh, that you may be able to convince him of the futility of his objections, and the diſcredit given to his facts. His annual ſavings have enabled him to accumulate much more than the Paiſhcuſh ſpecified in the letter of the Honourable the Governor General and Council; and I have undoubted proof, ſo far as a fact of this nature can be aſcertained, that the income of his jaghire is at leaſt increaſed to the amount ſpecified in the ſtatement I tranſmitted to you, under date the 3d ult°. By a compliance he will render a moſt acceptable ſervice to the public, and hold his country upon a clear undiſputable right—but by a refuſal he will expoſe himſelf to the reſentment of the Vizier, and the Honourable Company, a vigorous exertion of whoſe united forces could doubtleſs diſpoſſeſs him, beyond the hopes of ever being reinſtated. It is a duty, and an immemorial cuſtom of the empire, for jaghyredars to aſſiſt the ſtate in times of emergency.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your moſt obedient,

Humble ſervant,

(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW.

Lucknow, Reſident at the Vizier's Court.

8th February 1783.

Tranſlation of a Shoka from the Vizier to Fyzoola Cawn; dated 4th of Rubbee ul Awul, 2197, Hejeree.

I have already deputed to you Major Palmer, the confidential friend of Mr. Haſtings and myſelf, for the expreſs purpoſe of confirming the friendſhip which has ſo long united us, and in conjunction with you to make ſuch neceſſary and ſalutary arrangements as may give ſtability to your affairs, and ſecure to you laſting happineſs and proſperity. The ſole and entire management of this buſineſs

is

is entrusted to that gentleman, and the measures he may propose will be in strict conformity to our intentions. A ready acquiescence on your part will at once afford us the highest satisfaction, and insure to you those advantages which it is the object of Major Palmer's mission to effect.

Translation of a Letter from Mr. John Bristow to the Nabob Fyzoola Cawn; dated 5th of Rubbee ul Awul 1197, Hejeree.

I have had the pleasure to receive your letter, the contents of which, together with the representations of Allif Cawn, I perfectly comprehend. His Excellency the Vizier has deputed Major Palmer to you, who will learn the cause of all your differences, and amicably adjust them to your mutual satisfaction and advantage. That gentleman is the confidential friend of the Governor General, Mr. Hastings, and he possesses the fullest confidence of his Excellency, who, as he has himself informed you, has committed to him the sole and entire management of this business. He will make your welfare and prosperity the object of all his arrangements; and as in doing this he will act in strict conformity to the sentiments and intentions of Mr. Hastings and the Vizier, you may rest satisfied that every engagement he shall enter into with you will on their part be held sacred and inviolate. To say more on this subject were superfluous. I shall be happy to hear of your welfare.

A true translation.

(Signed) W. COWPER.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I have been honoured with the receipt of your commands of the 11th ultimo, prescribing the rule which you have thought proper to lay down between the commanding officers and the resident.

I have now the pleasure to transmit (N° 1) his Excellency's orders regarding the thefts committed at Futty Ghur. I hope the proposed plan for obviating a repetition of these abuses will meet with your approbation.

Major Palmer is returned from his deputation to the Nabob Fyzoola Cawn; under date the 23d ultimo, I transmitted to you a copy of that gentleman's letter to me, specifying the particulars of the agreement he had entered into with the Nabob Fyzoola Cawn, in behalf of the Vizier and the Honourable Company. I now have the pleasure to enclose a translation of the agreement (N° 2) of which a copy was delivered to me by Major Palmer. I have received the bills of exchange, on account the first payment

payment, and the teeps in deposit: if the conditions be approved, I beg the favour that you will return a ratified agreement, which shall be sent to the Nabob Fyzoola Cawn.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect,
Honourable Sir, and Sirs,
Your most obedient humble servant,
(Signed) JOHN BRISTOW.
Lucknow, Resident at the Vizier's Court.
14th March 1783.

Translation of his Excellency the Vizier's Shoka, to Rajah Jaoo Lall, Khoja Am ul Deen, and Mahummed Beg; dated the 27th Rubbee ul Awul, 1197, Hegeree.

Many thefts have lately been committed in Colonel Cumming's camp, and no punishment inflicted on the thieves: immediately upon receipt of this order, I therefore direct you to send a trusty person to the Colonel, to whom he will explain the whole affair. The zemindars in whose districts the thieves are found, shall restore the full value to the owner; and you are directed to confine those who are in league with them, and on representation of the case to me I wall pass sentence. If you should not have force sufficient, represent the circumstances to the Colonel, who will in that case grant his assistance.

Publish throughout your districts, that every zemindar, &c. acting in the same manner, shall be made an example of.

A true translation.
(Signed) J. NEAVE,
Assistant to the Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Translation of a Writing given by Major William Palmer to the Nabob Fyzoola Cawn.

(L. S.)
(Signed) J. P. Auriol, Secretary.

Whereas treaties of various articles having subsisted formerly between the late Vizier Suja ul Dowla, and the present Vizier Asof ul Dowlah, with the Nabob Fyzoola Cawn, one article contained in those treaties was, that the Nabob Fyzoola Cawn should, whenever his Excellency sent his troops upon service, supply a force to join them of two or three thousand men; this has been the occasion of disputes and doubts between the parties, therefore the Nabob Fyzoola Cawn has through me requested his Excellency the Vizier to remit that article by which he is bound

bound to ſupply a force occaſionally, inſtead of which he agrees to pay fifteen lacks of rupees in the following manner: five lacks to be paid immediately, five lacks in the khereef, and two lacks in the rubby of the year 1191 fuſſily, and the remaining three lacks in the beginning of the khereef of the fuſſily year 1192.—His Excellency the Vizier has alſo agreed upon theſe conditions to remit the obligation by that article in the former treaties, from this date, the fourteenth of Rubby ul Awul, in the Hegeree year 1197. The reſt of the articles remaining in full force, I, who am deputed on the part of his Excellency the Vizier, and the gentlemen of the Council, engage that the Nabob Vizier ſhall not expect a ſupply of troops; and, ſhould he demand it, the gentlemen with him, on the part of the gentlemen of the Council, ſhall remonſtrate againſt his demands. Provided the Nabob Fyzoola Cawn complies with all the articles contained in the treaty between his Excellency and him, excepting that article by which he is to ſupply a force, and that the Nabob Fyzoola Cawn do not encourage or protect the farmers of the Nabob's country, in his own country, his Excellency the Vizier will on his part comply with the articles of the former treaty, and the officers of his government will not protect or encourage any of Fyzoola Cawn's farmers in their diſtricts. I agree to have the treaty on the part of his Excellency the Vizier, for diſengaging the Nabob Fyzoola Cawn from the obligation of ſupplying a force, and the paper of guarantee from the gentlemen of the Council, wrote, and ſent to the Nabob Fyzoola Cawn.

Dated the 14th of Rubby ul Awul, 1197, Hegery, or 17th of the month of February Engliſh 1783.

A true tranſlation.
(Signed) ROB. GREGORY.
Aſſiſtant to the Reſident at the Vizier's Court.

Agreed to in Council at Fort William, the 30th June 1783.

(Signed) WARREN HASTINGS.
EDWARD WHELER.
JOHN MACPHERSON.
JOHN STABLES.

The Perſian copy of the treaty was not incloſed in the above letter, but having been afterwards received by the Secretary, and ſent to the Perſian tranſlator to be copied, is now laid before the Board, atteſted by him in the Perſian language, and ſigned by the Board with the following.

"Agreed in Council at Fort William, 30th June 1783."

Digitized by Google

The Company's ſeal was alſo affixed to the treaty, and is now returned to Mr. Briſtow in the following letter.

To Mr. Briſtow, Reſident at the Vizier's Court.

Sir,

Having conſented to become the guarantee for the Vizier's obſervance of the treaty concluded by Major Palmer between him and the Nabob Fyzoola Cawn, we encloſe a Perſian copy of it under the Company's ſeal, with our acquieſcence expreſſed, and our ſignatures affixed, which you will be pleaſed to forward to Fyzoola Cawn.

We are, &c.

Fort William,
30th June 1783.

See alſo 5th Report of the Secret Committee and Appendix, Number 27, to the End of 45 incluſive. Alſo, the 8th Report of the Select Committee and Appendix, and the Papers relative to the Charges IV. and XVI. in vol. I.

THE END.

Digitized by Google

A N
INDIAN GLOSSARY.

A.

ABDALLI, an appellation distinguishing a tribe of Afghâns; who are also called Duranni. They possess Gisni, Candahar, Cabul, Pashawer, with a part of Multan and Sind on the side of Persia, the greatest part of Chorasaun and Seestaun, and all Bamia on the side of Tartary.

Afghâns are those tribes of Mahometans who inhabit the northern parts of India, called sometimes Pattans, and esteemed the best soldiers of the country.

Agrâ, 44 coss from Delhi, the capital of a province, and formerly the capital of the empire.

Allahabad, the name of a province; also the capital of that province where the Great Mogul resided during his continuance under the protection of the English.

Ameer-ul-Omrah, lord of lords, or chief of the nobles, a title bestowed on the Buckshee-ul-Mummalik, or treasurer of the empire.

Anna, $\frac{1}{16}$ of a rupee in Bengal.

Arzdasht an address to the King, so called from the two initial words always used in such address.

Arzee, an address from an inferior.

Ashrufie, the most valuable gold coin.

Assam, the 6th month; it commences the 11th of June and ends the 10th of July.

Assamys, the name given to those merchants employed at Patna who collect the saltpetre from the several towns where it is made.

Assaûmee, a defendant, or any person on whom a claim is made.

Assel, or *ausil jumma*, the original rents the lands were first charged in the books of the empire, exclusive of additions and impositions made since by the government.

Assen, the 9th month; it commences the 11th of September and ends the 10th of October.

Digitized by Google

Assumgau, or *autumgau*, an allowance paid from the revenues, as a largess, to religious men, doctors or professors of sciences.

Attoch, the name of a river that separates the province of Lahore from Peishore, the stream of which is generally so very rapid, that there is but one place where an army can conveniently pass.

Auggun, the 11th month; it commences the 11th of November and ends the 10th of December.

Auméen, or *ameen*, an officer employed by the government to inspect the state of the revenues of any district; a supervisor; also sometimes an arbitrator or umpire. See *Hustabood* and *Zemindar*.

Aumil, or *aumildar*, an officer, (inferior to, or under the the auméen) employed on the business of the revenues.

Aumulnama, a warrant or order from the government, empowering a person to take possession of any land.

Aurung, a manufacturing town or villlage.

B.

Bahar, a province belonging to the Company.

Bahâdre, a military title, something similar to a knight; it literally signifies *valiant*.

Bankfall-duty, storehouse duty.

Bankfauls, storehouses for depositing ships' stores, while unlading and refiting.

Banyan, a Gentoo servant employed in the management of commercial affairs; also a servant to every English gentleman.

Barjáut, an oppressive custom of forcing the natives to buy goods beyond the market price.

Batta, the extraordinary allowance paid the military when on field duty; also the agio, allowance or rate of exchange between rupees of different species.

Batty. See *Paddy*.

Bauglcpore, a district, 265 miles distant from Calcutta.

Bazár, a market place; a daily market.

Beerboom, a district, 90 miles distant from Calcutta.

Beetle leaf, the aromatic leaf of a shrub growing like a vine, which is always chewed together with the nut; it is likewise called *paan* by the natives.

Beetle nut, a nut produced by a very tall, slender, and upright tree, which the natives constantly chew and eat between their meals. A small parcel of these from the hand of a superior is always received as a pledge and assurance of protection. It is called by the natives *soopáy*.

Digitized by Google

Begab,

Begah, or *beager*, a measure of ground, 20 fathoms long and 20 broad.

Begum, a princess; a title given to every lady of rank.

Benares, an ancient Hindoo city situated on the banks of the Ganges, 545 miles distant from Calcutta.

Bhaudon, the 8th month; it commences the 11th of August and ends the 10th of September.

Bihur Gee, a Maratta vakeel or agent.

Bije Gur, a strong fort, south of the Ganges, in the territories of the Rajah Cheit Sing.

Bildar, a man who works with a beel, an instrument like a spade.

Bildars, gunmen.

Bildeas, pioneers.

Bissouli, a town in the Rohilla territories, north of the Ganges.

Bramins, a religious sect, the highest cast of Hindoos.

Burdhailcund, a hilly country to the southward of Allahabad, well known for the diamond mines of Hieragur and Punna Gur.

Buckserree, a foot soldier armed with sword, target, or a spear, generally employed as a guard for conducting treasure or goods.

Buckshee, or *buxy*, a treasurer.

Budgerow, a boat, not unlike our pleasure barges.

Bunder, a sea port; also sometimes used for a custom house.

Bundobust, the regulation of any affairs, the discipline of an army, &c.

Burgaloe, a cottage or warehouse.

Burdwan, a country so called, 50 miles distant from Calcutta.

Burguers, in building, something like our rafters.

Burkundass, a matchlock man; literally expresses one who throws lightning, from the Persian words *burruck*, lightning, and *undachtun*, to throw.

Buxbunder, the office of customs at Hooghly.

Bysack, the 4th month; it commences the 11th of April and ends 10th of May.

C.

Caboul, the northern extremity of the Hindostan empire, 266 coss from Delhi.

Calcutta, the seat of the Presidency of Bengal.

Callaree. See *Khallåry*.

Calså, or *Calsa Shereefa*. See *Khalsa Shereef*.

Candahar, situated on the frontiers of Persia and Hindostan, now the capital of the Abdali, 358 coss from Dehli.

Digitized by Google

Candy, a weight of 500lb. at Bengal.

Canongo, the officer appointed by the sovereign, as register of a province.

Caoun, sixteen puns of cowries, equal to about eight pence English money.

Cast, a tribe.

Caurtick, the 10th month; it commences the 11th of October and ends the 10th of November.

Cawn. See *Khân*.

Chaite, the 3d month; it commences the 11th of March and ends the 10th of April.

Charsombay signifies Wednesday.

Chittagong, a district 285 miles distant from Calcutta.

Chokedar, a watchman; also the officer of a guard.

Chokey, a guard or watch house; also a place appointed in different parts of the country for receiving the public customs and duties.

Chout, a fourth part, commonly used for the tribute of the fourth of the revenues which the Marattas claim from many governments in India; and among others, from Bengal, by virtue of a firman of the Emperor Mohammed Shaw: also the duty collected upon judicial decisions in the cutcherry courts of Hindostan.

Choutâry, a Bengal corruption of chout.

Chowdrawy, properly *chowdrâyet*, the jurisdiction of a chowdry.

Chowdry, a landholder or farmer; properly he is above the zemindar in rank. but according to the present custom of Bengal, he is deemed the next to the zemindar.—Most commonly used as the principal purveyor of the markets in towns or camps.

Chubdar, a staff bearer; a necessary attendant in the train of a great man, who proclaims the approach of visitors, &c. He generally carries a large silver staff about five feet long in his hands. Among the Nabobs he proclaims their prailes aloud, as he runs before their palanqueens.

Chucklah, an assemblage of the smaller divisions of a province; generally the jurisdiction of a fouzdar.

Chunam, lime made of shells or stones. Such as the natives eat with their beetle is made of the former.

Chunar Gur, a very strong fortress within about seven coss of Benares, situated on an eminence on the south bank of the Ganges, which river it commands. It was ceded by the present Vizier to the English.

Circar. See *Sircar*.

Coffrees, a general application for negroes with woolly hair.

Colleries, a cast or tribe of people inhabiting certain districts in and about the Madura and Tinnevelly countries.

Comar lands, having no native tenants, are lands cultivated by contract.

Connys, ground of 300 covids long, and 250 at Luckypore.

Cooley, a porter or labourer of any kind.

Cootba, the form of public prayer used for the King.

Corah, a small province situated between the rivers Jumna and Ganges, westward of Allahabad; also the name of a principal town in this province.

Coss, or *cose*, a measure by which they commonly compare distances in India, and is from two to three English miles.

Cossid, a messenger used to carry dispatches from one part of the empire to another; an express.

Cossimbuzar, a district 130 miles distant from Calcutta.

Coss lands, lands under the immediate superintendance of Government for want of farmers.

Cottah, a spacious building in which the goods of the Company are sorted and packed.

Covid, in general, half a yard, though there are some 27 and 36 inches each.

Courrycpoor Gaut, a ford near Ram gaut.

Cowle, an agreement or proposal from a superior to an inferior.

Cowlnâma, the same.

Cowry, a small shell which passes for money, of which from 4000 to 4800 go to a rupee. The cheapness of provisions at Bengal makes it convenient to have so very low a medium for dealings among the poor. Eighty are called a pun, and from 50 to 60 puns the value of a rupee. A cowry may be rated at the 160th part of a penny.

Croory, properly *Karooree*, an officer who collects the revenues under a lord lieutenant of a province; for which he makes himself responsible in consideration of a commission of two or three per cent.

Crore, one hundred lacks, or ten millions.

Currumnassa, or *Carramnassa*, a small river dividing the Subah of Bahar from the territories of the Nabob of Oude, south of the Ganges.

Cussore, the allowance or agio upon the exchange of rupees, in contradistinction to batta: batta is properly the sum deducted, and cussore the sum added.

Cutchérry, a court of justice; also the office into which the rents are delivered, or for the transaction of any other public business.

Cutwâl, an inferior officer of the police dependant on the fouzdar, whose business is to try and decide petty misdemeanors, and to regulate the prices of provisions within a certain district.

Digitized by Google

D. *Dacca*

D.

Dacca, a district 250 miles distant from Calcutta.

Dadney, the money paid in advance to a merchant or manufacturer on a contract for goods.

Dam, or *daam*, a small coin.

Danapoor, five coss west of Patna, on the south bank of the Ganges, where cantonments are erected for a division of the English troops.

Dandee, a waterman or rower.

Daroga, or *droga*, an overseer or superintendant.

Dawks, postmen stationed at stages of 10 miles distance from one another for the conveyance of letters.

Deccan, all the peninsula to Cape Comorin.

Delhi, the capital of the empire of Hindostan.

Deloll, or *dallall*, a broker.

Dewan, the second officer of a province, whose business is to superintend the lands and collections, the policy of the ancient Moguls not trusting the purse to the Nabob, who held the sword in the several subordinate governments; also the steward of any man of rank.

Dewanconna, the Dewan's court or office.

Dewanny, the office of a Dewan. The Company possesses the dewanny of Bengal, and this their only constitutional ground of authority in that province.

Dhee, the ancient limits of any village or parish; thus Dhee-Calcutta means only that part which was originally inhabited.

Dinagepore, a subordinate factory of the Company's in the Purnea country, situated to the westward of Moorshedabab, 200 miles distant from Calcutta.

Divan, a council of the Nabob and his ministers of state.

Doolies, a kind of litter on which a person may lie at length, suspended on a straight bamboo, and carried on men's shoulders.

Dooreas, dog keepers.

Doreas, striped muslins.

Duab, two rivers, an appellation by which is distinguished all the country between the rivers Jumna and Ganges.

Duftercana, the exchequer or office for keeping the Government's accounts; in common usage, an office or accompting house.

Durannies, or *Dourânies*, Abdallies.

Durbar, the chamber of audience, or court of a Mogul, Nabob, or any great man. Sometimes it means the palace, and sometimes the levee only.

Dustore, a customary allowance. In Bengal generally understood,

Digitized by Google

derstood to be that which the banyan receives on all sales and purchases.

Dustuck, a passport, permit, or order. In the English Company's affairs, it generally means the permit under their seal, which exempts goods from the payment of duties.

E.

Ead, a festival holiday.

Elwar signifies Sunday.

Emarut, a building. The droga of the emarut is the overseer of the public buildings.

Enam, a gift from a superior to an inferior.

Etmáun, a division of a province under the superintendency of an etmaundár.

Etmaundár, a landholder, or superintendent of the revenues of a small division of a province, called etmaún.

Ezarders. See *Izarders*.

F.

Faquir, an Indian priest of the lowest or mendicant class.

Fayzabad, a large town adjoining to the city of Oude, the ancient capital of the province bearing that name, situated on the river Duer.

Firmaún, a grant, order, decree, or command of the Emperor. Among the English it commonly means the charter which the Company obtained from the Emperor Furrukseer, granting them a liberty of trading duty free, and other privileges.

Fouzdar, or *phousdar*, the chief magistrate of a large district, who has charge of the police, and brings all criminal offenders before the phouzdarree court; also a commander of the soldiers: sometimes it is one who receives the rents from the zemindars, and accounts with the government for them. The district of lands under his jurisdiction is called Chucklah.

Fouzdarree, the appointment or office of a fouzdar.

Fouzdarry courts, courts of criminal justice in each chucklah.

Frungies, or *Fringies*, Christians.

Furhung, a vocabulary.

Furruckabad, a large fortified town in the Duab, situated at a small distance from the Ganges.

Digitized by Google

G.

Ganges, the largest river in Hindostan; it falls from the Sewallac mountains, the northern boundaries of the empire, and empties itself into the Bay of Bengal.

Gardee, a name sometimes given to the sepoys.

Gauzepoor, a pergana and town east of Benares.

Gaznites, Durannies, Abdallies.

Gentoo, a professor of the ancient religion of India.

Ghat, an entrance into a country over mountains, or through any difficult passage; also a landing place on a river side, particularly where duties are collected.

Ghatbarry, or *katbarry*, a tax upon boats collected at the ghats or chokeys.

Ghee, clarified butter.

Gingauls, first arms, much like our wall pieces; they are improperly called *gingauls*, the Persian word is *jasoin*.

Gobud, a district on the hills, south of the Ganges.

Golah, or *gao'oc*, a warehouse, the walls whereof are generally raised of mud, and thatched, for keeping grain, salt, &c.

Gomastah, an agent or factor. In Bengal it is generally understood to be those who are sent into the interior parts of the country to purchase goods, on monthly wages—commonly Gentoos.

Gousaine, the name of certain sect of Hindoo faquiers.

Gualior, a province; also a very strong fortress south of the Jumna, 28 coss from Agra, now in the possession of Madajee Scindia.

Gundàe, four cowries.

Gunge, a granary, or market for grain.

Gunnies, coarse canvas for bags or wrappers.

Gurr, a house or fortress.

Gurrati, cantonments 7½ coss from Calcutta.

Gurree, a division of time including 24 minutes.

Guzerbaun, an officer who collects the customs at the ferries.

Guzzerat, a place where silk is provided.

H.

Hackerees, carts drawn by oxen.

Hagee, one who has performed the pilgrimage to Mecca, which every true Mahometan thinks himself bound to do once in his life.

Harem, what is commonly but improperly called in Europe, a seraglio, apartments of Mahometan women.

Havildar,

Digitized by Google

Havildar, or *havaldar*, a subaltern officer of sepoys, of the rank of a serjeant, and next to the jemidar.

Haut, a market kept on stated days.

Hazarree, a commander of gun men, literally a commander of a thousand.

Hegira, or *Hijira*, the flight of Mahomet from Mecca to Medina, from which time the Mahometan æra commences. It began the 16th of July, A. D. 622.

Hircarra, a messenger; frequently used for spies.

Hissaube, accounts.

Hughly Wacca, a newspaper, or chronicle kept by the officers of the Moors' government.

Husbulhookum, an official confirmation under the seal of the Vizier, enforcing obedience to the Emperor's firmaun.

Hustabood, an arbitrary valuation of any district of land. Hustaboods were first made annual in Bengal, between 20 and 30 years since, by the Nabob Cossim Ali Khân, a severe and oppressive financier. Before his time they seem to have been only practised as a relief to such zemindars who had failed in their payments to the public treasury, and of whose conduct the aumeen or inspector sent by the government had made a favourable report. Indeed, this is analogous to the rule established by Timur, or Tamerlane, as we call him, who in his Institutes directs, that the conquered landholders of India should pay to him what they before paid to their own sovereigns; but if any objected to their former assessment, as beyond their abilities, then there was to be a hustabood. See *Zemindar*.

Huzzoor, the presence; applied by way of eminence to the Mogul's court: according to polite usage, it is now applied to the presence of every Nabob, or other great man.

Huzzoor Nevees, the secretary who resides at court, and keeps copies of all firmauns, records, or letters.

Hyder-abad, the capital of Nizam Ally, Subah of the Deccan; it was formerly called Bhagnagur, and is about 371 miles distant from Delhi.

I.

Jagueer, properly *jaghire*, lands granted by the Grand Mogul as a pension; they are generally assigned to persons for their military services.

Jagueer Sircar, the Jagueer of the government, or the Nazim.

Jagueerdar, the holder or possessor of a jaghire: it comes from three Persian words, *ja* a place, *gheriftun* to take, and

Digitized by Google

and *dastun* to hold; *quasi*, a place holder or pensioner. In the time of the Mogul empire, all the great officers of the court, called omrahs, were allowed jaghires, either in lands, of which they collected the revenues, or assignments upon the revenues for specified sums payable by the lord lieutenant of a province; which sums were for their maintenance and support of such troops as they were necessitated to bring into the field when demanded by the Emperor, as the condition of their jaghires, which were revokable at pleasure.

Jaidads, assignments on particular lands. These differ from tuncaws, as the latter are assignments on the revenues of certain specified lands, and not on the lands themselves.

Jasoin, a Persian word signifying fire arms.

Jauts, a tribe of Hindoos possessing a large territory to the southward of the Jumna, and also between the two rivers, of which the Marattas deprived them of a considerable part. The King has since reduced Agra, and a great part of the open country to the south of the Jumna. Their territories formerly extended along that river 40 coss below Agra, and upwards, to within six coss of Delhi, and inland as far as Gualiar.

Jeet, the 5th month; it commences the 11th of May and ends the 10th of June.

Jemidar, *jamadur*, or *jamautdar*, a black officer of horse or foot, who ranks as a lieutenant, and next to the subidar; also the head man of a district, or the superintendent of the train of any great man.

Jennanah. See *Zenana*.

Jenuggur, the residence of a Hindoo Rajah, named Pretti Sing. This prince's territories are situated to the south west of the Jauts.

Jessore, a district 70 miles distant from Calcutta.

Illiabad. See *Allahabad*.

Imaum, an ordinary priest.

Indostan, or *Hindoostan*, India, the country of Hindoos, or swarthy people; *Hindoos* being swarthy or black, and *stan* a country.

Jooman signifies Friday.

Islam literally signifies a city; it usually means the true faith according to the Mahometans.

Jumma signifies united or collected; it is applied in common to men and things.

Jumma bundy, a rent roll.

Jummeraul signifies Thursday.

Jumna, a large river; it passes under the cities of Agra and Delhi, and falls into the Ganges at Allahabad.

Jungle

Digitized by Google

Jungle, or rather *Jungul*, a wood, wild country, waste ground, high grass or reeds.
Izara, a farm of the revenues.
Izardar, a farmer of the revenues.

K.

Kallaat, or *kellaat*, a dress given to a person invested with any new office.
Karooree. See *Croore.*
Katbarra. See *Ghatbarra.*
Kaulaubhaijc, a message.
Kazzee, or *kasy*, the chief magistrate appointed to administer justice to the Mahometans according to their written law, but particularly in matters relative to marriages, the sales of houses, and transgressions of the Koran; he attests or authenticates writings, which, under his seal, are admitted as the original proof.
Kella, a fort, citadel, or palace.
Kelladar, the governor of a fort.
Kerria, a parish or village.
Khallary, a salt work, commonly called Salt Pans.
Khalsa lands, crown lands.
Khalsa Shereef, the office in which the King's accounts are passed; the public treasury of Bengal. The word *shereef* added to it implies noble or magnificent.
Khalsa shereefa, all accounts belonging immediately to the King.
Khan, a lord; a title given to every man of rank.
Khereef; in all public registers the year is divided into two seasons, namely, khereef and rebbie. Khereef comprehends the months of Assen, Caurtick, Auggun, Poose, Maug, and Phaugun.
King's detroy, a protest or public declaration against improper proceedings of the Indian Government's officers.
Kissmutt, a division. When any part of a pergana is transferred from one zemindaree to another, each part is called a *kissmutt pergana.*—*Kissmutt perganas* are reckoned by annas or sixteenths; also many are termed divisions of 16 annas, because so small a proportion to the rest, that they are not rated at all.—*Kerria Kissmutt*, part of a parish, being such a proportion as is included in the sunnud.
Kist, the amount of a stated payment.
Kistbundee, a contract or agreement for the acquittance of a debt by stated payments.
Kistybunds, monthly payments.
Krore, or *crore*, ten millions.

Digitized by Google

Kuttârr, a dagger.
Kuvvaus, servants attending on the King's person.

L.

Lack, one hundred thousand. Lack of rupees, supposing them standard or siccas, at 2s. 6d. amounts to 12,500l. sterling.
Lahore, a large province of the Hindostan empire, north west of Delhi.
Luckypore, a district 285 miles distant from Calcutta.

M.

Maha, or *Mha Rajah*, chief or great Rajah; *maha* being great or mighty in the Sanskerreet or bramins' language.
Mahal, any land or public fund producing a revenue to the government. In the Company's sunnud it includes only perganas and sairs.
Mahal serai, the women's apartment. *Mahal* simply is sometimes used for *mahal seral*.
Maleekah, the Queen.
Malguzarree, the land revenue.
Malva, a large province of the empire west of Bahar, in the possession of Madajee Scindia, the Maratta chief.
Mamottee men, spade men; a mamooty is an instrument or tool to dig with.
Manghan, or *mângon*, a tax or imposition levied by the officers of the chokeys or gauts, as a perquisite for themselves or zemindars.
Manjee, the helmsman of a boat.
Marattas, the most considerable Hindoo tribe in Hindostan. Their power extends over the greatest part of Guzzerat, with all the country between that and the Deccan; the province of Orissa, a part of the Soubah of Allahabad south of the Jumma, Gualiar, &c. &c. quite through the southern bank of that river.
Masheh of silver, $\frac{1}{10}$th of a silver rupee.
Masheh of gold, $\frac{1}{12}$th of an astrusie.
Maug, the 1st month; it commences the 11th of January and ends the 10th of February.
Maulda, a district 200 miles distant from Calcutta.
Maund, equal to $74\frac{2}{3}$lb. at Bengal.
Measure makes five seer at Bengal.
Mhaujun, a banker and trader.
Mheinah, a month.
Midnapore, a district 60 miles distant from Calcutta.

Digitized by Google

Mobeete salt and wax; the rents of this pergana arise entirely from the sale of salt and wax, from which it takes its name; as there is no ground rent collected, it is termed no division.

Móhur, a seal; also a gold coin worth about 16 rupees.

Móhurree, any writer or under clerk among the natives of Bengal.

Mohurrum, the name of the first month in the Mahometan calendar, held sacred by the Mussulmen.

Molungee, a worker of salt, a salt maker.

Mongheer, a district 300 miles distant from Calcutta.

Moonshee, a secretary for the Persian language.

Mootecóphil, an officer who examines accounts, and puts his seal on them, when passed in the subordinate cutcheries, before they are sent to court.

Moraudabad, a town in the Rohilla country, north of the Ganges.

Mouza, a parish or village, sometimes a hamlet only, but properly a place.

Muckaudum, a superior officer of the revenues in a village.

Mufty, a high priest; it signifies properly an interpreter of the law: he is under the kâsy.

Mugghs, plunderers who pillage the towns, and plunder the boats and vessels about Chittagong.

Mullah, a Mahometan judge, an interpreter of the Koran; likewise a schoolmaster.

Multaun, a large province situated to the westward of Delhi.

Mungul signifies Tuesday.

Munsub, a title, dignity, post, or office.

Munsubdars, persons invested with dignities.

Musnud, an elevated place of distinction in the Durbar for the prince to sit on; a throne.

Mutchulkah, an obligatory or penalty bond, generally taken from inferiors by an act of compulsion.

Mutseddee, or *muttaseddie*, an officer of state, or collector of customs; a term applied to the officers employed in taking the accounts of the subah or government; it is also used for the clerks of any great man.

Mysore, a province of the Deccan governed by Tippoo Saib.

N.

Nabob, proper *Nawâb*, the plural of *Naib*, a title given to every person of noble rank; also the appellation given to a governor of a province.

Naib, a deputy.

Naik,

Digitized by Google

Naic, properly *naigue*, a subaltern officer of the sepoys, of the rank of corporal, and next to the havildar.

Naigpoor, a large town 140 coss south of Allahabad.

Nancár, an allowance in an assignment upon the revenues, or the lands themselves, originally given as charity for the relief of the poor.

Nattore, a district 140 miles distant from Calcutta.

Neabut, the post, office, or jurisdiction of a naib.

Nesbaunburdar, an ensign.

Nezzar, or *nuzzer*, a present or offering from an inferior to a superior. In Hindostan, no man ever approaches his superior for the first time on business, without an offering of at least a gold or silver rupee in his right hand.

Neuzzerana, or *nuzzerana*, a customary present to government, as an acknowledgment for a grant of lands, or any public office.

Nizam, the first officer of a province, in whose hands the executive power is lodged, usually stiled the Nabob; a viceroy or governor.

Nizamut, the post, office, or jurisdiction of a nizam.

Nobit, a band of music, allowed only to persons of the highest rank by a grant from the crown.

Nockada, at Hughly, supracargoes of Moors' ships.

Nuddea, the name of a town or province.

O.

Obdabáár, an officer of the revenues, the same as croory.

Omrah, the plural of aumeer, a lord of the empire.

Oodæeel, the name given to one of the revolutions of 12 years.

Orissa, a province.

Oude, the subah; also the capital of that province. The revenues of this subah are supposed to amount to two crores of rupees per annum, and some have even rated them at three crores.

P.

Paan. See *Beetle leaf*.

Paddy, rice in the husk.

Padshah, the Emperor, or, literally, the great King.

Pagoda, a gold coin equal to 8s; also a temple, or place of worship.

Pahr, spelt by Halhed *pauss*, a variable division of time, consisting of such a number of gurries as will form nearly a fourth part of the natural day or night.

Digitized by Google

Palanqueen, a vehicle carried on men's shoulders, commonly used for riding in: they are of two sorts, one for sitting in, like a sedan; and the other containing a bed, on which the person extends himself at full length.

Pannipat, situated to the north west of Delhi, famous for the action fought there between Ahmud Shah Abdalli and the Marattas; by which battle the power of the latter was nearly destroyed.

Patna, the capital of the province of Bahar, 380 miles distant from Calcutta.

Pattans, the name sometimes given to those tribes of Mahometans who inhabit the northern parts of India.

Peelibeet, a strong hold in the territories of the late Hafez Rhamut.

Peisah, cash.

Peon, a foot soldier armed with sword and target; in common use, it is a footman so armed, employed to run before a palanqueen. *Piadah* is the proper word, from which *peon* is a corruption.

Pere signifies Monday.

Pergana, or *pergunnah*, the largest subdivision of a province, whereof the revenues are brought to one particular head cutcherry, from whence the accounts and cash are transmitted to the general cutcherry of the province.

Perwannah, an order, warrant, grant, or even a letter from a superior to a dependant.

Peshcush, a fine, tribute, or quit rent paid to government, as an acknowledgement for any tenure.

Peshkar, a steward.

Pettah chindaree, a custom of one rupee given for a pottah, when any piece of ground is bought.

Phaugun, the 2d month; it commences the 11th of February and ends the 10th of March.

Phirmaund. See *Firmaun*.

Phousdar. See *Fouzdar*.

Piadah. See *Peon*.

Pice, 12 make an anna in Bengal, in money; 20 make a seer in Bengal, in weight.

Podár, a money changer or teller under a shroff.

Ponsways, small boats.

Poonah, the day on which all the zemindars bring in their balances for the year to the treasury at Calcutta.

Poonah, the seat of the Maratta government.

Pooneah, a month.

Poose, the 12th month; it commences 11th of December and ends the 10th of January.

Posskul, a small weight or measure.

Pottah, a lease, or conveyance of lands.

Puddum, 100 crores.

Digitized by Google

Pul, a small weight or measure.
Pulwar, a light boat used for dispatches.
Pun, 80 cowries, of the value of about an halfpenny.
Pundit, a learned bramin.
Purnea, the name of a country 260 miles distant from Calcutta.
Putney, silk as produced from the worm after the first winding off from the pod.
Pykar, a broker, inferior to those called dallals, who transacts the business at first hand with the manufacturer, and sometimes carries goods about for sale.
Pyke, a watchman employed as a guard at night; likewise a footman or runner employed on the business of the lands; they are generally armed with a spear.

R.

Rahadâr, or *rahdar*, an officer who has charge of the highways, the examination of passengers, and the collection of customs where there are any collected.
Rajâh, a title given to the Hindoo princes or chiefs; it signifies prince; originally appropriated to the principal zemindars.
Rajepoots, a tribe of Hindoos, but of various denominations; they are soldiers by profession, and the most warlike of the Hindoos.
Rannee, a princess; a title given to women of rank among the Gentoos.
Ram gaut, on the Ganges, about 36 coss north of Furruckabad.
Rebbee, that season of the year which comprehends the months of Chaite, Bysack, Jeet, Assam, Sohan, and Bhaudon; the latter half of that season commences the 1st of Assam, or the 11th of June, from which time the jagueer takes place; the other season is called khereef.
Recayab; it is so written in the Company's treaties, but it should be *reâyab*, which is the plural of the Arabic *ryot*.
Reiat. See *Ryot*.
Rissâlah, or *russaula*, an independent corps of horse.
Rissaldar, the commander of that corps.
Rohillas, or *Rohilli*, a tribe of Afghans inhabiting the country north of the Ganges, as far as the subah of Oude to the eastward; also a great part of the territories between the two rivers, till the incursion of the Marattas.
Roomâuls, or *romals*, species of handkerchiefs.
Rowanna, a passport or certificate from the collector of the customs.
Roy, a Hindoo prince.

Digitized by Google

Roy Royan, the principal officer under the Dewan, who has the immediate charge of the crown lands.

Rummuzzaun, the name of a month in the Mahometan calendar.

Rungpore, a diſtrict 260 miles diſtant from Calcutta.

Rupee, a ſilver coin ſtruck in the Mogul's mint, with an inſcription of his name, titles, year of his reign, and place it was coined at. There are various ſpecies of rupees annually coined in India, differing a little in coſt, weight, and quality; the beſt are the ſiccas of the current year, worth about 2s. 6d.

Ryot, a tenant who is generally both a huſbandman and manufacturer.

Ryotty lands are lands farmed out, tenanted, and cultivated on the ſpot.

S.

Saddar, *Sardar*, or *Sirdar*, a chief, leader, commander, or generally a great man.

Sairs, any place or office appointed for the collection of duties and cuſtoms.

Sampodar, a treaſurer or caſhkeeper among the black people.

Seers equal to 1 lb. 14 oz. Troy, at Bengal; 40 make a maund at Bengal, Bombay, and Surat.

Sephârrey, afternoon.

Sepoys, natives who are ſoldiers; generally uſed for the Indian infantry that are diſciplined after the European manner. Their corps conſiſts of a ſubidar, jemidar, havildar, naigue, and tom tom.

Sequin, equal to 7s. 6d. in Arabia, &c.

Serai, a building on the high road, or in large cities, erected for the accommodation of travellers.

Seringapatam, the capital of Myſore, in the Deccan, and the reſidence of Tippoo Saib.

Sewâury, the train of attendants who accompany a nabob, or other great man on the road.

Sewy, the increaſe of the rents of the jagueer lands.

Sezawel, *Sezawal*, or *Sezawul*, an officer employed at a monthly ſalary to collect the revenues of a ſequeſtered zemindary or province; a ſequeſtrator. See *Huſtabood* and *Zemindar*.

Shabaun, the name of a month in the Mahometan calendar.

Shah, king, emperor, or chief.

Shah Allum, the king of the world; the title given to the preſent Great Mogul, the Prince Ally Gohar.

Shah Zada, a prince or ſon of a king; any perſon of royal extraction.

Shahabad, a frontier town to the westward of the Nabob of Oude's country.

Shahbunder, the office of customs at Dacca.

Sháštab, or *Sháštro*, the religious books or scriptures of the bramins; it is also used in common for any book of science.

Shoccah, or *shokah*, an appellation given to all letters written by the King.

Shroff, a banker or money changer, properly *scraf*.

Shuternaul, a kind of harquebuss fixed on the back of a camel, much in use among the natives.

Sicca, any new coin: it means stamped or sealed; but is particularly used for the standard silver rupee of the Bengal mints.

Sicca weight, equal to 7 dwts. 11 grs. 5511 dec. at Bengal.

Sicdár, the collector of the rents of a village.

Sics, a tribe who first made their appearance in the reign of Bahadur Shah; they have since become numerous, by admitting proselytes of all religions. They are divided into several states, who, though totally independent of each other, join firmly together at the approach of a foreign enemy; on which occasion a general is chosen by common voice to command the whole, whose authority ceases as soon as the service is over. They are now in possession of all the territories between Lahore and Surhind, both banks of the Indus from Cashmire almost to Tatta, and of the greatest part of Multauh and Sind, together with the whole province of Pungeaut.

Siddee, or *Siddoe*, an Arabic title, by which the Abyssinians, or Habashys, are always distinguished in the courts of Hindostan, where, being in great repute for firmness and fidelity, they are generally employed as commanders of forts, or in posts of great trust.

Sircar, any office under the government; sometimes used for the state or government itself; any number of perganas placed under one head in the government's books, for convenience in keeping their accounts, and in common usage in Bengal; the under banyans of European gentlemen are called sircars.

Sirdar. See *Sardar*.

Sohan, the 7th month; it commences the 11th of July and ends the 10th of August.

Sonaut. See *Sunnát*.

Soontaburdár, an attendant who carries a silver bludgeon of about two or three feet long in his hand, and runs before the palanqueen. He is inferior to the chubdar; the propriety of an Indian sewaury requiring two soontaburdárs for every chubdar in the train.

Soopáry. See *Beetle nut*.

Soeskaneel,

Digitized by Google

Sooskaneel, the name given to one of the revolutions of 12 years.
Soudagree, merchandize.
Soudagur, a merchant.
Sowar, a horseman.
Subah, a province.
Subahdar, the viceroy or governor of a province.
Subahdârce, *Subahdâry*, or *Subahship*, the office of a subah-dar.
Subidar, a black officer who ranks as captain and commands a company of sepoys.
Su:curtaul, a strong hold on the southern banks of the Ganges, 40 coss from Delhi.
Sultânut, the crown, throne, empire, or government.
Sumneetchar signifies Saturday.
Sun, the year; thus siccas of the 1st, 2d, or 3d sun, are the standard silver rupees of a 1st, 2d, or 3d year of a prince's reign, which is marked on the coin.
Sunat, properly *sunwâut*, rupees of old dates on which a discount is allowed.
Sunnasses, or *Sunnaussies*, a wandering religious tribe who travel armed, are brave, and levy contributions in the districts they pass through. Their route from the source of the Ganges through the Company's provinces to the Carnatic is sometimes troublesome.
Sunnud, a charter, patent, or grant from any great man in authority.
Surapau, an honorary dress conferred on an inferior by a superior.
Surdar, the name given to those people at Cossimbuzar who are employed to wind the silk off.
Surhind, or *Sirhind*, a town north west of Delhi in the possession of the Sics.
Swameys, the pagan gods or idols.
Sydcabad, a town in the country of the Jauts between the rivers.

T.

Tagâbey, money lent to an husbandman on interest, to enable him to cultivate his land; for payment of which the ensuing crop is bound.
Tahsildar, an officer employed at a monthly salary to collect the revenues.
Tâi-hgau, a sabre.
Talaokdâry, a small district held by a lease in perpetuity.
Talookdar, the possessor of a talookdâry. The talookdar

Digitized by Google

ſeems to differ from the zemindar, like the copyholder with us from the freeholder.

Tank, about Madras, a large reſervoir of water collected in order to water the rice fields.

Tankſall, a mint.

Tánna, a ſmall fort.

Tannadar, a commander of a ſmall fort.

Tappee, an expreſs.

Teep, a contract, or note of hand. In Bengal particularly uſed for thoſe notes given before hand, for money to be paid for ſervices to be performed.

Telinga, a ſepoy ſo called from a country of that name, from whence the firſt ſepoys were probably enliſted.

Theekânah, the place where any perſon is either a ſojourner or inhabitant.

Timour, the celebrated eaſtern conqueror, known in Europe by the name of Tamerlane, founder of the preſent dynaſty of Mogul Emperors in Hindoſtan.

Toddy tope, an orchard of Palmira or cocoa-nut trees, or both, from which a liquor is extracted called toddy.

Toſſaul, a collection of callaries or ſalt pans.

Tom Tom, a black officer who acts as a drummer

Topaſſes, native black Chriſtians, the remains of the ancient Portugueſe.

Tope, a wood or grove.

Tuncaw, an aſſignment; an order from the Nabob upon his fouzdars, or rajahs, for payment of his revenues.

Tuſſuldar, the Company's collector of the kiſtybunds.

U.

Vajib-ul-Arzee, a petition or propoſal to a ſuperior.

Vakeel, an attorney, agent, or charge des affaires.

Vizârut, the poſt or office of a vizier.

Vizier, the firſt miniſter of the empire.

Ultumgau. See *Aſtumgau*.—Ultumgau is alſo uſed to ſignify an inheritable tenure in contradiſtinction to jaghire, which is only a tenure for life, and was originally revocable at pleaſure.

W.

Wadadar, an officer of the government, who, for a commiſſion of two or three per cent., is reſponſible for the rents of a zemindaree.

Wadda, or *waddadarry*, a farm of a diſtrict.

Y. *Yeſſawul*,

Y.

Yessawul, a state messenger.

Z.

Zemindar, a tenant in chief, who holds a certain tract of land immediately of the government; a kind of a lord of a manor. The precise extent of the zemindar's rights, according to the legitimate constitution of Hindostan, has been much contested; it is, however, admitted on all hands, that he possesses a property in the soil. The ancient practice seems to have been, that while the zemindar paid his regular and established proportion of the accustomed cess, the government had nothing more to do with him: but in case of any failure in his payments, then an aumeen was sent to examine his accounts. If the aumeen's report was favourable to the zemindar, an hustabood was settled for his relief; otherwise a sezawul, armed with coercive powers, was appointed on the part of government to manage the zemindarry, the revenues of which were sequestered for the arrears due, excepting only an allowance of ten per cent. for the subsistance of the zemindar. Mr. Hastings maintains the right of Government in all cases to make hustaboods at discretion, and to exact the whole produce of the soil, all but the ten per cent., which he is still willing to allow, as an equitable claim of the zemindar on the generosity of the sovereign. See *Hustabood*.

Zemindarry, the office of a zemindar, or the lands held by him.

Zenana, belonging to women; the women's apartment.

Zilladar, an officer of the collections.

THE END.

Digitized by Google

NEW PUBLICATIONS,

PRINTED FOR J. DEBRETT, OPPOSITE BURLINGTON-HOUSE, PICCADILLY.

THE PARLIAMENTARY REGISTER, No. IV. Containing an accurate, full, and impartial Account of the Debates of the present Session of Parliament, collated with the Notes of several Gentlemen, who have obligingly communicated the same.

☞ At the desire of several Persons of distinguished Abilities and Rank, this Work was undertaken. The favourable Reception it has met with during the whole of the two last Parliaments, not only demands the most grateful Acknowledgements of the Editors, but encourages them to a Continuation of the same through the present Parliament. For this Purpose, and to prevent Misrepresentation, they beg leave again to solicit the Assistance of their former Friends, and every other Gentleman. A strict Attention will be paid to all their Commands and Favours; nor will any Assiduity or Care be wanting to preserve that Truth and Accuracy, for which this Work has hitherto been distinguished.

Of whom may be had,

The PARLIAMENTARY REGISTER of the First and Second Sessions of the present Parliament, in Four Volumes. Price 1l. 16s. half bound and lettered.

The PARLIAMENTARY REGISTER of the last Parliament, complete, viz. from 1780 to 1784, in Fourteen Volumes. Price 5l. 8s. half bound.

The PARLIAMENTARY REGISTER of the former Parliament, from 1774 to 1780, in seventeen Volumes, Price 6l. 6s. half bound and lettered.

The REMEMBRANCER; or IMPARTIAL REPOSITORY of PUBLIC EVENTS. The AMERICAN WAR gave rise to this Work in 1775. Every authentic Paper relative to that War, as also with France and Spain, whether published in ENGLAND or AMERICA, by the BRITISH MINISTRY, or the AMERICAN CONGRESS, are all carefully inserted in this Work. The Letters of the several Commanding Officers, Addresses, Resolutions of the various Committees, Conventions, &c. To these have been prefixed, at the Desire of many Persons, a Collection of authentic Papers respecting the Dispute with America before the Commencement of Hostilities, from the Resolutions which gave rise to the Stamp Act in 1764, to the Battle of Lexington in 1775. Complete Sets of this valuable and interesting Work may be had of the Publisher in Seventeen Volumes. Price Six Guineas half bound and lettered.

*** Those Gentlemen who are in want of any particular Numbers to complete their Sets, are earnestly intreated to order them as speedily as possible.

ARTICLES of Charge of HIGH CRIMES and MISDEMEANORS against WARREN HASTINGS, Esq. late Governor General of Bengal. Presented to the House of Commons in 1786, by the Right Honourable EDMUND BURKE.

The MINUTES of what was offered by WARREN HASTINGS, Esq. late Governor General of Bengal, at the Bar of the House of Commons, upon the Matter of the several Charges of High Crimes and Misdemeanors, presented against him in the Year 1786.

MINUTES of the EVIDENCE taken before a Committee of the House of Commons, appointed to consider of the several Articles of Charge of High Crimes and Misdemeanors, presented to the House against WARREN HASTINGS, Esq. late Governor General of Bengal.—Names of the Evidence:

Sir

Digitized by Google

Sir Robert Barker, Colonel Champion, Major Marsack, Captain Leonard Jaques, Major Balfour, Major Gardner, Major Gilpin, Mr. Middleton, Captain Williams. The several Papers which were read.

The Three preceding Articles being uniformly printed in Octavo, may be had complete. Price 15s. half bound and lettered.

OBSERVATIONS on the COMMUTATION PROJECT; with an Appendix: Containing some interesting Tables. By THOMAS BATES ROUS, Esq. Second Edition.

TRANSACTION in INDIA, from the Commencement of the French War in 1756, to the Conclusion of the late Peace in 1783: Containing a HISTORY of the BRITISH INTERESTS in HINDOSTAN during a period of thirty Years; distinguished by two Wars with France, several Revolutions and Treaties of Alliance, the Acquisition of an extensive Territory, and the Administration of Governor Hastings; elegantly printed in One Volume Octavo.

Mr. HASTINGS's NARRATIVE of the INSURRECTION at BENARES, August, 1781, and of the TRANSACTIONS of the Governor General in that District; with an APPENDIX of AUTHENTIC PAPERS and AFFIDAVITS. Calcutta: printed by Order of the Governor General.

COPY of LETTER from WARREN HASTINGS, Esq. to the Court of Directors, relative to their Censure on his Conduct at BENARES; and also the Answer of the Court of Directors thereto; presented to the House of Commons upon the second Day of March, 1786.—To which is added, Mr. HASTINGS's Letter to WILLIAM DEVAYNES, Esq. Chairman of the India Company, from Cheltenham, July 11, 1785, on the subject of Money privately received. Price 1s. 6d.

Mr. FRANCIS's SPEECH in the House of Commons, March 7, 1786. Price 2s.

ORIGINAL MINUTES of the GOVERNOR GENERAL and COUNCIL of FORT WILLIAM on the Settlement and Collection of the Revenues of BENGAL; with a Plan of Settlement, recommended to the Court of Directors. By PHILIP FRANCIS, Esq. Price 7s. 6d.

The SPEECH of GEORGE DALLAS, Esq. Member of the Committee appointed by the British Inhabitants residing in Bengal, for the Purpose of preparing Petitions to His Majesty, and both Houses of Parliament, praying Redress against Mr. Pitt's East-India Bill, as delivered by him at a Meeting held at the Theatre, in Calcutta, on the 25th of July, 1785. A new Edition, with Additions. Price 1s. 6d.

PROCEEDINGS of the BRITISH INHABITANTS of MADRAS, on the subject of Mr. PITT's EAST-INDIA BILL, at a Meeting held at the Town Hall of Fort St. George, on Monday, the 19th Day of September, 1785, in consequence of a Summons by John Snow, Esq. Sheriff of Madras.

The NINTH REPORT from the Select Committee, appointed to take into Consideration the State of the Administration of Justice in the Provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa. A new Edition. Price 3s.

††† The above interesting Report contains an Account of the Conduct of Warren Hastings, Esq. and of Richard Barwell, Esq.

The ELEVENTH REPORT from the Select Committee, appointed to take into Consideration the State of the Administration of Justice in the Provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa. Price 2s.

*** This Report contains an Account of Money received and acknowledged by Warren Hastings, Esq.

A COL-

Digitized by Google

BOOKS PRINTED FOR J. DEBRETT.

A COLLECTION of the most esteemed EAST-INDIA TRACTS which were printed during the Years 1780, 1781, 1782, 1783, and 1784.

§†§ In this Collection are contained, among other valuable Tracts, Mr. Hastings' Letter; Major Scott's Conduct of the Minister; Mr. Dalrymple's Account of the Loss of the Grosvenor; Mr. Burke's Representation to His Majesty; The Ninth and Eleventh Reports of the Select Committee; All in the Wrong; Retrospective View of the Mahratta War; Mr. Francis's Speech; Minutes on Sir Elijah Impey's Appointment; Genuine Memoirs of Asiaticus; Tanjore Papers; Major Scott's Speech; Mr. Cotsford's Letters; Detector's Letters; Popular Topics, &c. &c. &c. in Six Volumes. Price 2l. 2s. half bound and lettered.

The NEW FOUNDLING HOSPITAL FOR WIT: Being a Collection of fugitive Pieces in Prose and Verse, not in any other Collection. A new Edition, considerably improved and enlarged; in which are inserted several curious Pieces, by Lady Craven; the Marquis of Carmarthen; the Earls of Carlisle, Charlemont, Nugent, Buchan, Chesterfield, Chatham, Delawar; the Lords Townshend, Palmerston, Mulgrave, Holland, Lyttelton, Harvey; the Right Hon. C. J. Fox, Right Hon. R. Fitzpatrick, Right Hon. C. Yorke; Countess Temple; Mrs. Greville, Miss Carter, Mrs Lenox; the Hon. H. Walpole, and T. Luttrell; Sir W. Draper; Sir J. Moore, Sir W. Jones, Sir Charles Hanbury Williams; J. Wilkes, D. Garrick, R. B. Sheridan, R. Tickell, G. Ellis, J. Courtenay, J. S. Hall, Caleb Whitefoord, G. Colman, R. Cumberland, C. Anstey, W. Hayley, S. Jenyns, B. Thornton, Esqrs.; Doctors B. Franklin, Armstrong, Beattie; Capt. E. Thomson, &c. &c. &c. Together with several Pieces, now first printed from the Authors' Manuscripts. The Whole carefully revised, arranged, and corrected, in Six Volumes. Price 18s. sewed.

A YEAR's JOURNEY through PAIS BAS; or, AUSTRIAN NETHERLANDS. By PHILIP THICKNESSE, Esq. A new Edition. To which is now first added, The Routs through Germany, Holland, and Switzerland, Difference of Money, &c. Price 6s. in Boards.

MEMOIRS of the BARON DE TOTT, on the Turks and the Tartars, translated from the French, by an English Gentleman at Paris, under the IMMEDIATE INSPECTION of the BARON. In 2 vols. Price 10s. in Boards.

An AYSLUM for FUGITIVE PIECES, in Prose and Verse, not in any other Collection: with several Pieces never before published; including the CRITIQUES on the ROLLIAD, revised; The PROBATIONARY ODES for the LAUREATSHIP; Lord G—M's DIARY; Lord M——E on Eloquence; and Poems by the late Lord Holland, by the present Lord Belgrave, Warren Hastings, Esq. Colonel Erskine, Dr. Coombe, Messrs. Jerningham, Warren, &c. &c. Songs by Captain Morris, Odes by Peter Pindar, &c. &c. and several Jeu des Esprits, written by Persons of Fashion, on many late Public Topics. In Two Volumes, Price 7s. 6d. sewed, The Purchasers of the first volume of the Asylum may have the second Volume to complete Sets.

*** The above eight Volumes being uniformly printed, may be had complete. Price 1l. 5s. 6d. sewed.

The HEIRESS; a COMEDY. By Lieutenant-General JOHN BURGOYNE, as performed at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane. The 5th Edition. Price 1s. 6d.

A SHORT ADDRESS to the PUBLIC: Containing some Thoughts how the National Debt may be reduced, and all Home Taxes, including Land Tax, abolished. By WILLIAM Lord NEWHAVEN. Price 1s.

Digitized by Google